

Bears Host Redskins After First Loss

DOUG BUFFONE'S



75¢

BEAR REPORT



A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE CHICAGO BEARS AND THE NFL.

VOL. 1, NO. 11

SEPTEMBER 30, 1976

PUBLISHED BY 55 ENTERPRISES, INC.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611





A Weekly Newspaper Devoted Exclusively
To The Chicago Bears and The NFL.

September 30, 1976

ON THE COVER . . .

Bear running back Johnny Musso scores the first Chicago touchdown of the season on this plunge against Detroit Sept. 12. It was the only TD of the game as the Bears won 10-3. (Photo by Mike Volland)



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Printed by
Royle Publishing Co., Inc.

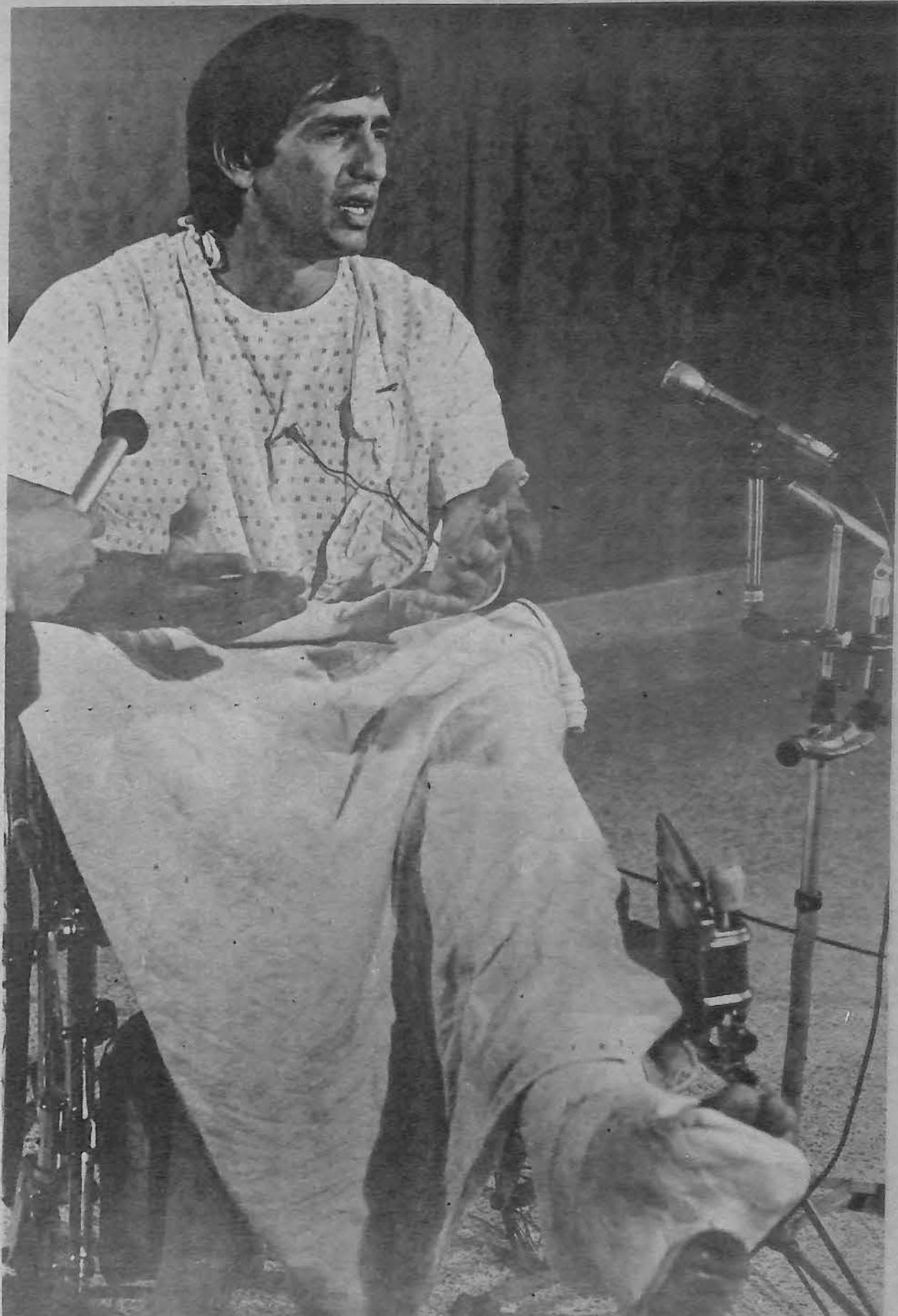
Bear Report is published 26 times a year including twice in July, weekly in August, September, October and November, four times in December and once in January, February and May.

General Offices: 112 Market Street, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590. Second class postage pending at Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590. Advertising rates and subscription information from 500 North Michigan, Suite 700, Chicago, Illinois 60611. Phone 312/787-6955.

Editorial Offices: 1948 North Lincoln, Chicago, Illinois 60614. Phone 312/943-2438.

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DOWN BUT NOT OUT . . . is veteran linebacker Doug Buffone. Following his operation for a torn Achilles tendon (injured Sept. 19), Buffone talked about his future with Chicago media at Masonic Hospital last week. (Photo by Bill Smith)

FOLLOW THE BEARS

Chicago Bears Regular Season:

Sep. 12	Chicago 10, Detroit 3
Sep. 19	Chicago 19, San Francisco 12
Sep. 26	Atlanta 10, Chicago 0
Oct. 3 WASHINGTON	12 Noon
Oct. 10 at Minnesota	1:00
Oct. 17 at Los Angeles	1:00
Oct. 24 at Dallas	1:00
Oct. 31 MINNESOTA	1:00
Nov. 7 OAKLAND	1:00
Nov. 14 GREEN BAY	1:00
Nov. 21 at Detroit	1:00
Nov. 28 at Green Bay	1:00
Dec. 5 at Seattle	1:00
Dec. 12 DENVER	1:00

Editor's Column

by
Kevin Pates

It had been a long time between hospitals for Doug Buffone. He doesn't really remember his last visit — it was the day he was born.

That was June 27, 1944 in Yatesboro, Pennsylvania. Now 32 years later, and with ten National Football League years behind him, Doug Buffone reluctantly submitted to his second hospital stay.

It Happened So Quick

Chicago's Masonic Hospital was Buffone's home last week following an operation for a torn Achilles' tendon in his left foot.

The operation became a necessity when Buffone was injured early in the Bears' game at San Francisco September 19.

After a pass play from Jim Plunkett to Tom Mitchell, Buffone (the Bears' left side linebacker) came limping to the sidelines. That came midway through the 49er's first offensive series.

"I pushed off of the Astroturf and it (the tendon) just snapped. At first I thought someone had kicked me; I really just wasn't sure what had happened," Buffone related from his fifth-floor hospital room.

"The foot went numb at the time and I thought it might just be a momentary thing. But I took a couple of steps and I really didn't have any control of my left foot. Then I knew something was wrong ... it all happened so quick."

No Immediate Pain

"There was no real pain at first," Buffone continued. "In fact, at halftime I changed into my street clothes and then stood on the sidelines to watch the second half. But that night I began to feel the effects."

It was a lonely scene as the Bears returned to Chicago that evening. They had just defeated a favored San Francisco team, but no one seemed to be in the celebrating mood.

After all of the Bear team and front office personnel had filed through Gate C-5 at the International section of O'Hare Airport, a wheelchair-bound Buffone made his exit.

Accompanied only by Chicago trainer Fred Caito, Buffone was already beginning to ponder his future. "The question is whether I can come back

from this to play again?" he asked.

Isn't it a little early to start thinking about that, I inquired.

"If I don't start making plans now, I'll never make it back," was his determined reply.

Future

The road back looks to have a good foundation, following his September 20th operation.

"Our team physician, Dr. Theodore Fox, did a great job of putting my foot back in shape. I really have a great deal of confidence in him," Buffone said.

"And now it's going to be up to me. It will take a lot of discipline on my part not to rush the healing process.

"The natural tendency for me will be to try and do everything in one day ... but that's just not realistic is it?"

"I'll be in a cast of some sort for 12 weeks and the key will be using my crutches properly. The leg will then be strengthened little by little through swimming and other exercises."

Linda Buffone gets little time with her husband during an NFL season; does the injury mean a change in that respect?

"Well, for a while I'll be at home more than usual. But as soon as I'm able, I'll be back spending time at Lake Forest (the Bears training site).

"I'll be attending as many team meetings as possible and I'll be helping out with the linebackers.

"In addition I'll be working out a weight program for my upper body strength ... you've got to stay in shape," Buffone said.

Valuable Asset

And so injured or not, able to play or not, Chicago's ranking football player will continue to contribute to what seems to be Better Days for the Bears.

His team record of 142 consecutive starts has been broken, but Buffone hopes to start another streak as he looks to his 12th pro season in 1977.

(Doug will resume his regular column in this space next week.)

Injury Info - Ouch

The Bears' 19-12 win in San Francisco (Sept. 19) was good for the spirit but bad for the body ... as the injury report might indicate.

In addition to Doug Buffone's torn Achilles tendon, these Chicago athletes were hobbled by the action at Candlestick Park: offensive guard Noah Jackson (ankle sprain), center Dan Peiffer (bruised calf), quarterback Bob Avellini (knee sprain), cornerback Virgil Livers (bruised thigh), defensive tackle Wally Chambers (ankle), defensive end Royce Berry (thigh) and cornerback Allan Ellis (hamstring).

Only Peiffer and Jackson seemed doubtful for Sunday's Falcon game. Because of those two injuries, there were resulting changes during the Bears' practices last week: rookie tackle Dennis Lick was expected to make his first start of the year (replacing Jeff Sevy on the right side). Sevy was to move in at left guard to substitute for Jackson (who was still on crutches at mid-week).

At the same time, Dan Neal was filling in for Peiffer at center.

Wide Receiver Added

Because of Buffone's loss, Chicago was one player under the NFL limit of 43 after the 49er game. But added September 21st was wide receiver James Scott, formerly with the Chicago Fire and the New York Jets. Scott was signed as a free agent.

The 6-1, 194-pound receiver is a grad of Henderson (Tex.) Junior College. He then played with the WFL Fire in 1974 before undergoing knee surgery. Prior to his injury, Scott had caught 52 passes, for 755 yards and eight touchdowns, in eight games (Virgil Carter was the QB at the time).

Scott was then signed by the Jets in 1975 but missed the entire season with an eye injury; he was cut from the New York roster late this summer.

Other Changes

Also getting additional workout time last week was rookie middle linebacker Tom Hicks. The former Illini star, who has been backing-up Don Rives, also was working some at outside linebacker. Depth will be needed there to assist starters Ross Brubacher and Waymond Bryant.

Hartless

San Francisco linebacker Tommy Hart, who caught Walter Payton for a safety, was also shown on film to be the same man who bruised Avellini's knee.

In the Stats

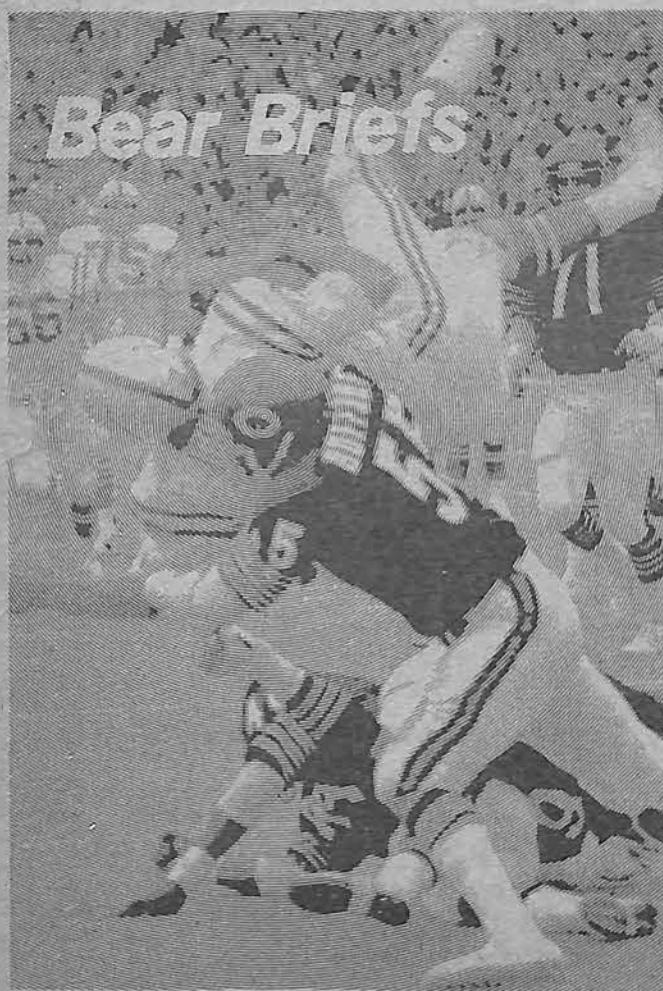
The NFC stats released after the first two weeks of the regular season showed these Bears listed: Passing, Bob Avellini (10th) with a rating of 55.9. Dallas' Roger Staubach was the leader (103.8).

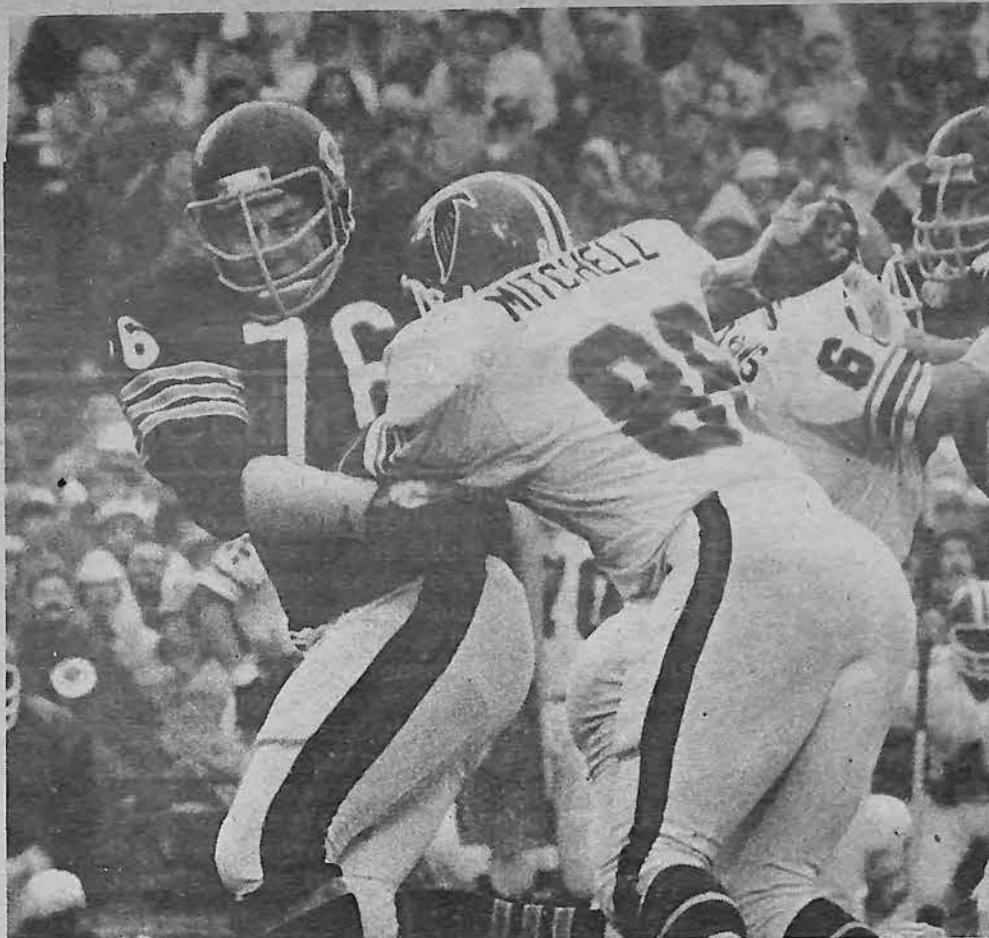
Rushing, Walter Payton (2nd) with 218 yards and a 4.1 average. The Rams' John Cappelletti was the leader with 230 yards and a 4.5 average per rush.

Punt Returns, rookie Brian Baschnagel was the conference leader, with three punts for 88 yards (a 29.3 average.)

Among the 14 conference teams, Chicago was listed 1st in total defense and 11th in total offense and was ranked second overall (combining the two).

Bear Briefs





IN THE TRENCHES against Atlanta ... at left is Bear defensive tackle Ron Rydalch (76) fighting through the Falcons' Jim Mitchell and starting his first pro game (above) is offensive tackle Dennis Lick (70). Walter Payton (34) is making his move around Lick. (Photos by Bill Smith)

Bears Meet Washington in Rematch Following 10-0 Home Loss to Atlanta

by Kevin Pates
Bear Report Editor

A good shot of offensive sunshine is what the prescription read last weekend following Chicago's damp 10-0 loss to Atlanta at Soldier Field. The Bears (2-1) will look for those strengthening cosmic rays this Sunday when Washington comes to town for Game 4 of the 1976 season.

Kick-off time for the Redskin game has been moved up one hour because of national television coverage and the game will now start at 12:06 p.m. CDT. The contest will be the first half of a TV twin-bill, with Los Angeles at Miami completing the doubleheader. Washington was 2-0 going into Monday night's game at Philadelphia.

In a September 3rd pre-season game, Chicago beat the Redskins 9-7 on the road.

Defense Strong Again

Overcast skies and intermittent rain set the scene for the Atlanta encounter as the Bears and 41,029 poncho-covered fans searched in vain for a third straight victory.

A barricading Chicago defense frustrated the Falcons throughout the game. In fact, the Bears unnerved Atlanta place kicker Nick Mike-Mayer enough that he proclaimed his performance as the worst of his four-year career — he missed four of five field goals.

The longest drive of the afternoon, a first-quarter epic by Atlanta, ended with the first of Mike-Mayer's misses. After a Bob Parsons' punt, the Falcons started at their own 18-yard line as 11:42 remained in the opening period.

Almost

Quarterback Steve Bartkowski and rookie back Bubba Bean did much of the work as the Falcons worked their way to a first-and-goal situation at the Bear 2. Two plays later Woody Thompson scored an apparent three-yard TD — but tackle Len Gotshalk was caught for holding and Atlanta took ten giant-steps to the rear. Bartkowski was then sacked (loss of 8) and overthrew Al Jenkins and in came Mike-Mayer

— his 38-yard attempt was wide to the left. That point-less series lasted 17 plays and erased 7:49 from the clock.

What a Catch

Chicago produced its top offensive play of the game just 1:30 later. Rookie Brian Baschnagel, starting at wide receiver for Ron Shanklin, was the star.

On third-and-four, Bob Avellini looked down the right sideline and found Baschnagel for a 39-yard hook-up. The diving catch was the first pro reception for the former Ohio State athlete.

That play moved the Bears down to the Falcon 34 but this time it was Bob Thomas' turn to avoid the uprights. His 45-yard field goal try, on the first play of the second quarter, was short and to the left.

Three punts highlighted the rest of the first half until the Falcons made a last-minute threat. Bartkowski passed his way to the Bears' 21 (with the help of a 26-yard reception by Jim Mitchell) and from there Mike-Mayer was called to the carpet again. A carbon-copy miss, wide left from 38-yards away, kept things scoreless at the end of 30 minutes.

More Trouble

The Falcons managed to pick-up where they ended their first half futility. The opening Atlanta drive after intermission sputtered at the Chicago 31 and Mike-Mayer's 49-yard field goal attempt — you guessed it, off to the left. Bear safety Bill Knox was credited with getting a hand on the ball.

Things were then to turn sour for the usually steady Bear offense. There were six Chicago turnovers recorded during the game, five errors came in the second half.

Walter Payton fumbled after a six-yard gain, during Chicago's first drive of the third quarter. That midfield mistake gave Atlanta possession and the Falcons eventually moved the ball to the Bear 21. But Mike-Mayer booted his third 38-yard FG attempt wide left and Payton was given a reprieve. The score remained 0-all after three periods.

Steve Schubert was not quite as lucky as Payton. Filling in for bruised punt return specialist Virgil Livers, Schubert bobbled a John James punt and that meant trouble. Dewey McClain recovered for Atlanta at the Bear 17, and from there it took only three plays to break the scoreless deadlock. Haskel Stanback went the final three yards, over left tackle, to tally the game's only touchdown. Mike-Mayer made good on the point-after.

Two interceptions thrown by Avellini and a fumble by Baschnagel terminated Chicago's final three drives. Mike-Mayer administered the KO punch during that time as he connected on a 45-yard field goal — assuring the Falcons of their first win of the year.

It was the fourth straight loss to Atlanta and it came before nearly 100 former Chicago players attending the game as part of the 40th Annual Bear Alumni Weekend. The Falcon meeting also marked the 1,000th pro game since George Halas moved his team to Chicago in 1921. Through those years the Bears have totalled a record of 609-340-50.

Pardee Quotes

"It was what I was afraid of ... they (Atlanta) didn't make any mistakes and field position was killing us all day," Bear head coach Jack Pardee said following the game.

"The facts haven't changed. We're not a real good team and we're not a real bad team. We need to play our best ... when we play well we can beat anybody. We didn't make any big plays against Atlanta, but we did make mistakes. I give their defense credit, they did a good job on us and we also nullified a couple of good runs with penalties."

Falcon head coach Marion Campbell talking about Chicago: "We knew that we had to stop the Bears' running game. We respected Payton and (Roland) Harper. We had to stop them whether it was first, second or third down. That Payton is a great back and the Bears are tough."

"Coach Pardee has done a great job here and will continue to do a great job. I was very proud of my defense ... there were a lot of good, big performances out there."



STILL NO. 1? Well, Bear middle linebacker Don Rives (57) and head coach Jack Pardee (at right) may or may not be discussing that possibility ...



The Bears dropped to second in the NFC Central, behind Minnesota, following their 10-0 loss to Atlanta. (Photos by Bill Smith)

TEAM STATISTICS
(Sept. 26, 1976)

	ATLANTA	CHICAGO
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS.....	19	10
By Rushing.....	6	6
By Passing.....	12	4
By Penalty.....	1	0
THIRD DOWN EFF.....	8-20	5-12
TOTAL NET-YDS.....	270	226
Total Off. Plays (Inc. times thrown passing).....	80	54
Ave. Gain Per Off. Play.....	3.4	4.2
NET YARDS RUSHING.....	137	116
Total Rushing Plays.....	43	32
Ave. Gain Per Rush. Play.....	3.2	3.6
NET YARDS PASSING.....	133	110
Times Throws—Yds. Lost		
Attempting to Pass.....	5-31	0-0
Gross Yds. Passing.....	164	110
PASS ATT-COMP-HAD INCTP.....	32-14-0	22-10-3
Ave. Gain Per Pass Play (Inc. times thrown passing).....	3.6	5.0
PUNTS-NO. AND AVE.....	6-37.7	5-40.4
Had Blocked.....	0	0
TOTAL RET. YARDAGE.....	8-73	6-103
No. and Yds. Punt Ret.....	4-33	3-2
No. and Yds. Kickoff Ret.....	1-21	3-101
No. and Yds. Inter. Ret.....	3-19	0-0
No. and Yds. Mics. Ret.....		
(FG, Blocked Punts, Fumble Ret.).....	0-0	0-0
PENALTIES—NO. AND YDS.....	2-25	4-30
FUMBLES—NO. AND LOST.....	0-0	3-3
TOUCHDOWNS.....	1	0
Rushing.....	1	0
Passing.....	0	0
Returns.....	0	0
EXTRA PTS. MADE—ATT.....	1-1	0-0
FG MADE—ATT.....	1-5	0-1

CHICAGO

	Had				
	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Gain	Had
RUSHING					
Harper.....	8	42	5.3	10	
Payton.....	23	86	3.7	9	
Baschnagel.....	1	12	12.0	-12	
PASSING	Att. Comp.	Yds.	LG.	Int.	
Avellini.....	22	10	110	39	3
PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG.		
Baschnagel.....	2	45	39		
Harper.....	4	24	9		

Latta.....	2	31	21	
Rather.....	1	7	7	
Payton.....	1	3	3	

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG.
Parsons.....	5	202	40.4	51

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG.
Schubert.....	3	1	2	7

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG.
Baschnagel.....	2	80	44
Harper.....	1	21	21

TACKLES	Solo	Assist
Nobis.....	8	4
Brown.....	7	2
Tilleman.....	10	0
Brezina.....	4	2
Merrow.....	4	2

ATLANTA

RUSHING	Att.	Net	Long	TD
Bean.....	22	81	3.7	13
Thompson.....	5	24	4.8	9
Stanback.....	12	31	2.6	8
Collins.....	1	5	5.0	5
Bartkowski.....	3	4	1.3	2

PASSING	Att. Comp.	Yds.	LG.
Bartkowski.....	32	14	164

PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG.
Jenkins.....	3	40	17
Thompson.....	2	18	12
Bean.....	3	26	19
Stanback.....	4	36	14
Mitchell.....	1	26	26
Gilliam.....	1	18	18

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	LG.
Reed.....	1	0	0
Easterling.....	1	19	19
Lawrence.....	1	0	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	LG.
James.....	6	226	37.7	1	42

PUNT RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG.
Roberts.....	1	0	0
Lawrence.....	3	33	23

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG.
Collins.....	1	21	21



ROLAND HARPER looks for running room against Atlanta. That's tackle Dave Scott in pursuit. (Photo by Bill Smith)

Washington Game Notice

For those Bear fans who are planning to attend, view or listen to this week's Bear-Redskin game we remind you of the revised starting time of 12 noon. The game has been moved up one hour (from 1 p.m.) to accommodate national television coverage.

The Bears' game will be the first half of a TV doubleheader, Los Angeles at Miami will complete the twin-bill.



Don Pierson

- A Bear Report Regular -

Bears' Depth Chart has Names to Remember

Depth. The Chicago Bears are worried about depth. It has to amuse veteran Bear watchers.

Here is a team that hasn't been able to find first-stringers for 10 years and now they're concerned about depth.

That's progress, not a problem.

"We can't afford injuries," says Coach Jack Pardee, and he's right. No team can, especially a young one like the Bears. But let's put things in perspective.

Injuries

The Bears lost Doug Buffone, a horrible blow to their leadership and to their defense. Who steps in? Ross Brubacher, former first-stringer on the Buffone-Dick Butkus teams.

Buffone himself, speaking as a prophet in the first week of the season, said: "I'm not as good as I was several years ago. I know my weaknesses. I'm not as fast as I used to be. But I feel good Ross is back. If something ever happened to Waymond (Bryant) or me, he could step right in and play just as well."

Behind Brubacher is rookie Jerry Muckensturm, a rangy 6-4, 225-pounder who is the heir apparent to Buffone a few years down the road. Muckensturm has proven he has the ability. Rookie Tom Hicks is so good on pass coverage he can play middle or outside linebacker.

There was a time in the last 10 years when the Bears had linebackers named Dan Pride, Tim Casey and Larry Rowden.

Only one year ago, it was Larry Ely and John Babinecz. Both started the Bears' game in San Francisco. A picture in this year's 49er program had San Francisco halfback Delvin Williams, who gained 106 yards, surrounded by Ely,

Babinecz and cornerback Nemiah Wilson. Williams gained 106 yards in that game and the Bears lost 31-3. Ely, Babinecz and Wilson are all out of football today.

New Line-Up

Guard Noah Jackson was hurt in the same game that shelved Buffone. The Bears didn't think twice about moving tackle Jeff Sevy to guard and inserting Dennis Lick at tackle.

Lick was the "depth." He is also the team's No. 1 draft choice, the one offensive lineman in the country that every pro team wanted. He is a "can't miss" player who was going to be starting sooner or later anyway.

There was a not too long ago, Bear historians, when depth at tackle meant Rich Buzin or Jeff Curchin.

Center Dan Peiffer was bruised, so Pardee decided to leave Dan Neal at center instead of moving him to guard. Neal could start on some teams at either position, but Sevy has the strength, speed and experience to be outstanding at guard, where he played in the World Football League.

Who can remember when depth at center meant Gene Hamlin or Jim Ferguson, when depth at guard meant Doug Kriewald and Ted Wheeler?

Behind receivers Bo Rather and Ron Shanklin, the Bears have capable Steve Schubert, outstanding on special teams, and No. 3 draft choice Brian Baschnagel. They go out and sign James Scott, who is instantly the fastest receiver on the team and "as good as anyone I've ever thrown to," according to quarterback Virgil Carter, who threw to him when Scott led the World Football League in receiving

two years back.

Only three and four years back, the Bear receivers were Mike Repond and Matt Maslowski.

Q Bs

And speaking of quarterbacks, when was the last time the Bears had a No. 1 quarterback, let alone No. 2 or No. 3? Even No. 3 man Gary Huff acknowledges this is better than the confusion that used to prevail over who was No. 1.

Depth on the defensive line has been provided by Royce Berry, a defensive captain with the Cincinnati Bengals for six years, and Ron Rydalch, WFL refugee who puts out one quarterback on just about every other tackle.

In the last five years, depth used to be provided by John Hoffman, Larry Horton, Don Hultz and Bill Line.

The Bears have two tight ends who alternate — Greg Latta and Bob Parsons. It used to be Jim Hester and Ray Ogden.

Backup running backs used to be Dave Gagnon, Gary Kosins, Bill Tucker, Craig Bayham and Roger Lawson — not a four-year starter like Larry Schreiber or former All-Americans like Johnny Musso and Mike Adamle.

Newcomers

The place where Bear fears are most justified is in the defensive backfield, where starters Virgil Livers and Allan Ellis were the only experienced cornerbacks in camp for a while until General Manager Jim Finks, in his constant quest to "upgrade the ball club," signed Terry Schmidt, who had five interceptions for the Saints as a starter a couple years ago.

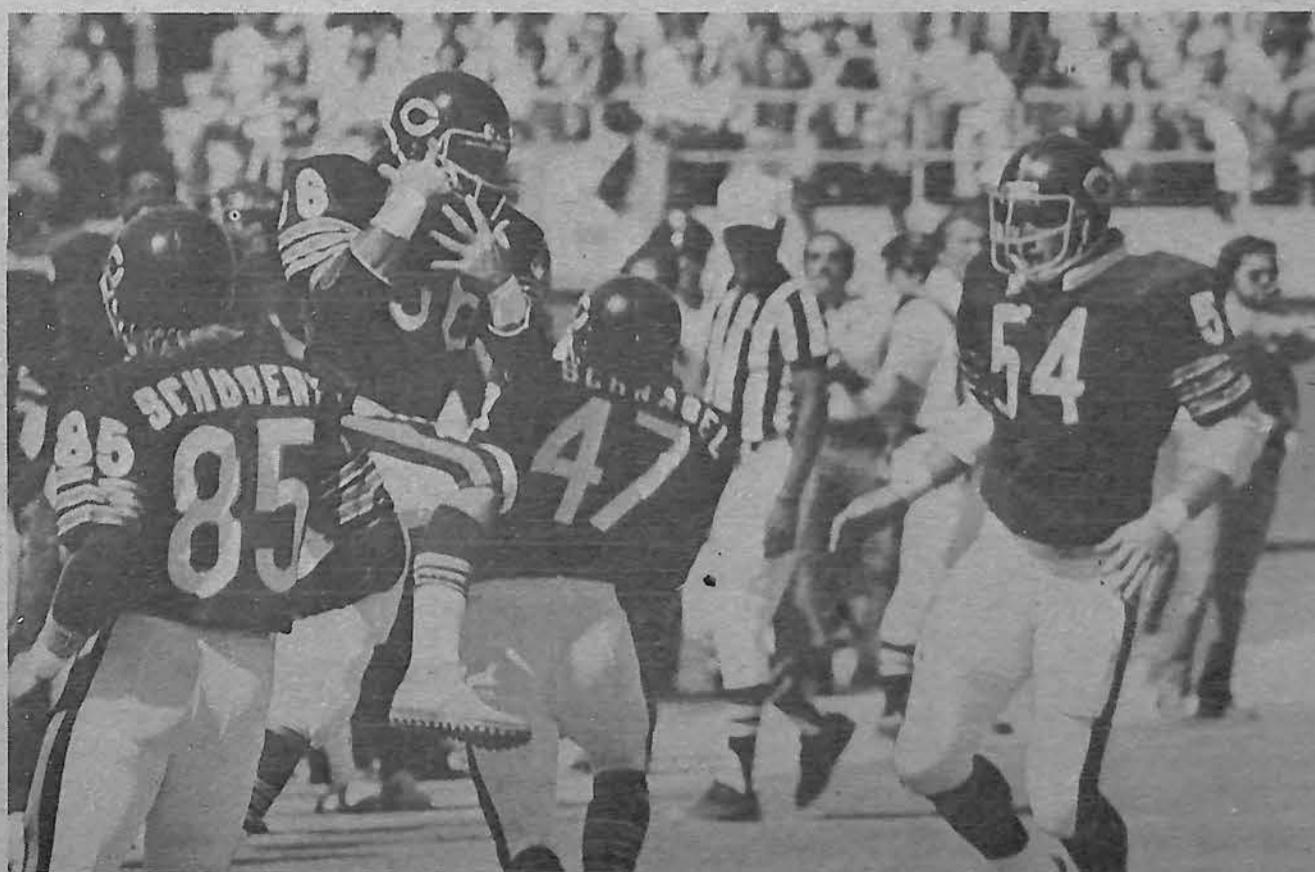
Then he signed Gary Fencik, a Yale grad, to help Billy Knox back up safeties Doug Plank and Craig Clemons.

After two games, the Bears led the National Conference in total defense.

The time to worry about the defensive backs was when John Davis, Conrad Graham, Cliff Hardy and Willie Roberts labored back there.

The Bears haven't arrived yet, of course. George Halas still has reason to believe, "We're a little thin." But there was a day when they were a lot thin.

Don Pierson is a sports writer for the Chicago Tribune.



THESE SPECIAL TEAM members are also valuable Bear back-ups. From left to right: wide receiver Steve Schubert, running back Larry Schreiber, wide receiver Brian Baschnagel and linebacker Tom Hicks. (Photo by Bill Smith)



Superpickers



Pickers Predict with Puns and Poems

BY TIM SULLIVAN, RANDY WIEVEL,
AND MIKE HABERMAN

No question about it, the Superpickers have the National Football League just about all figured out. Week Two in the NFL was as easy to predict as Week One was. With Oakland edging Kansas City in the Monday Night game, our record for the second week was ten correct, two wrong, one tie, and the tossup action. Our only two misses were what we consider flukes. Nobody in their right mind thought the Patriots would upset Miami, and the only reason Detroit beat Atlanta was that Lion Coach Rick Forzano would've been fired if Detroit lost to the Falcons. The overall record now is 21 right, 4 wrong, and one tie. Percentagewise, we're at .840. Sullivan and Haberman won the weekly tossup by taking San Diego over Wievel's Tampa Bay.

The Superpickers needed a good start, because Jimmy Wood is on the scene again. He's the guy from Atlanta who served as our guest picker towards the end of the exhibition season. When all of the teams were busy making their final player cuts, we also had to get our own crew in order. This meant one thing: we had to put Woody on waivers.

We were certain Woody would clear the waiver lists of all the other prediction teams around the league. Unfortunately, we were also wrong! Last week, Karnac informed us that a

source out in Oakland was thinking about plucking him off our active roster. Since Oakland has enough problems with Charlie Finley over there, we decided they didn't need another one . . . namely Woody. Nothing was left for us to do but recall his services.

Now Jimmy Wood is back on our Picker staff. Armed with a new no-cut contract, two dictionaries, and a bunch of weird puns and poems, Woody returns to once again help the Superpickers take a look at the NFL.

Here is the way the Superpickers' headquarters sees Week Four in the NFL:

MIAMI OVER LOS ANGELES — The Rams climb into the Dolphin pool, and find the water not so cool. Miami by 7.

HOUSTON OVER NEW ORLEANS — The Saints will try to be the spoilers. No chance here, against the Oilers. Houston by 10.

ATLANTA OVER PHILADELPHIA — One's in the South, and one's in the East. The Falcons should fly . . . by eleven at least.

SAN FRANCISCO OVER NY JETS — The way the Jets tackle, you'd think they're trying to win a sportsmanship trophy. 49ers by 17.

DENVER OVER SAN DIEGO — When the Chargers arrive, they'll start to sigh. Nobody likes playing at "Mile-High." Broncos by 9.

DALLAS OVER SEATTLE — The Seahawks

Seattle punts. Cowboys by 18.

LIONS OVER PACKERS — If it's a bomb the Lions need; they might get one from Joe Reed. Detroit by 7.

BALTIMORE OVER TAMPA BAY — If you think Tampa will put up a fight, you might end up — a few bucks light. Colts by 14.

CINCINNATI OVER CLEVELAND — When the Bengals meet the Browns. Cleveland smiles turn to frowns. Cincy by 3.

OAKLAND OVER NEW ENGLAND — The Patriots' one and only chance, was when they still . . . had Jim Nance. Raiders by 16.

BUFFALO OVER KANSAS CITY — No rhyme here, and surely no reason. But the Chiefs are in for one long season. Buffalo by 10.

ST. LOUIS OVER NY GIANTS — These teams really aren't far apart. But the Cards still have . . . Gray and Hart! St. Louis by 8.

CHICAGO OVER WASHINGTON — To Billy Kilmer — Here's the scoop: Chicago should knock you . . . for a loop. Bears by 1.

PITTSBURGH AGAINST MINNESOTA — Our weekly tossup is the Monday Niter, and Woody didn't get a vote. Haberman truly wants to take the Vikes, and Sullivan and Wievel don't care what he likes.

And now it's time to say goodbye. Let's hope this — is Woody's last try.

Super Sports Quiz Number Eleven

BY TIM SULLIVAN, RANDY WIEVEL,
AND MIKE HABERMAN

1. Which one of the following have been banned from the press box at St. Louis' Busch Stadium?

- a. Kangaroos
- b. Ilie Nastase
- c. Japanese reporters
- d. Walnettos
- e. Poker games

2. A few NFL stars go from the field to the broadcasting booth. Who went from the booth back to playing on the field this fall? (O.J. doesn't count.)

- a. Tony Canadeo
- b. Nick Buoniconti
- c. Phyllis George
- d. Emerson Boozer
- e. Johnny Morris

3. Who holds the Chicago Bears career mark for most passes thrown?

- a. Ed Brown
- b. Bill Wade
- c. Zeke Bratkowski
- d. Lindsay Wagner
- e. Sid Luckman

4. Who is the only original Dolphin left still playing for Miami?

- a. Jim Langer
- b. Tim Foley
- c. Larry Little
- d. Howard Twilley
- e. Howard Sprague

5. Believe it or not, the Kansas City Chiefs have a film coordinator named?

- a. Forrest Ranger
- b. Sal Loon

- c. Rusty Nail
- d. Max Welhaus
- e. Alfredo DiDarke

6. What is Lion's offensive tackle Rockne Freitas' middle name?

- a. Polycarp
- b. Crownenburg
- c. Rocky
- d. Fred
- e. Knute

7. A 1976 NFL rookie became the Big Eight's first three-sport letterman since Steve Renko in 1965. Who is he?

- a. Jimbo Elrod
- b. Dave Logan
- c. Mark Koncar
- d. Rik Bonness
- e. Tinker Owens

8. From reader F. J. Feuerstein of Beloit, Wisc.: What is the name of the first team ever to beat the Packers?

- a. The Duluth Eskimos
- b. The Decatur Staleys
- c. The Beloit A.A.C. Maroons
- d. The Winnipeg Blue Bombers
- e. The Atlanta Falcons

9. True or False: The leading rusher for Tampa Bay in 1975 was Hugh Culverhouse?

10. Eddie Bell of the Jets and Packers has a unique nickname. What is it?

- a. Alexander Graham
- b. Avon
- c. Liberty
- d. Taco
- e. Ed

ANSWERS TO SPORTS QUIZ NUMBER ELEVEN

10. d - Eddie Bell's nickname is Taco.

9. Just thought we might catch you sleeping here. Of course it's false. Tampa Bay didn't even play a game until 1976.

8. c - Reader Feuerstein tells us that the Packers' first loss was to the Beloit A.A.C. Maroons: Beloit won, 6-0, in 1919.

7. b - Colorado's Dave Logan, now with the Cleveland Browns, lettered in football, basketball, and baseball. He can probably swim, too.

5. c - Freitas' middle name is Crownenburg.

4. d - Twilley is the last of the original Dolphlin outfit.

3. e - Sid Luckman unloaded 1,744 passes between 1939-50.

2. b - Nick Buoniconti underwent just before the regular season to rejoin his Miami team-mates, leaving CBS under the limit on analysts.

10. 10,000 miles to cover St. Louis.

1. c - Because American reporters weren't allowed in the Japanese press box during the Cardinals-Chargers game in Tokyo, Head Red-Bird Bill Bidwill has decided Bush-Stadium's press area off-limits to any Cardinals reporter who might want to fly to Japan.

1976 Regular Season - Game 4

Washington Redskins at Chicago Bears

October 3 - 12 noon CDT

Soldier Field - Chicago, Illinois

The Bears last home game for nearly a month begins a heady six-game stretch for Jack Pardee's squad. Washington comes to Chicago Sunday with only five days of rest following its Monday Night game in Philadelphia. Prior to that contest the Redskins had won its opening two games on 1976.

Atlanta ended the Bears' victory streak at two last weekend, dropping Chicago 10-0 at Soldier Field. It was the first Bear shutout since Washington won a 42-0 decision in the final game on 1974. After this week's Redskin game, Chicago goes on the road three straight weeks to face: Minnesota, Los Angeles and Dallas — and then comes home to the Vikings and Oakland.

The first of two non-conference rematches takes place for the Bears Sunday when they face Washington.

Chicago encountered both the Redskins and the Seattle Seahawks during the exhibition season and are also scheduled to meet both during the championship portion of 1976.

First Time Around

In Washington, on September 3rd, the Bears defeated the Redskins in the final exhibition game of the year — 9-7.

Chicago rode the accurate foot of Bob Thomas in sealing that win. Field goals of 21, 36 and 30-yards by Thomas offset Washington's single touchdown.

A small crowd of 31,801 watched at RFK Stadium as the Bears held the Redskins to only 82 yards rushing. Quarterback Billy Kilmer

started the game for Washington, yet a Ron Rydalch sack in the second quarter sent Kilmer to the sidelines for the rest of the game.

It was back-up Joe Theisman that finally got Washington on the scoreboard during the final minute of the game. He passed to rookie Brian Fryer for a 13-yard scoring strike.

Regular Season

In the first game of the regular season, the Redskins came from behind to defeat the New York Giants 19-17, in Washington.

After falling behind 10-3 at halftime, the Redskins outscored New York 16-7 in the final two quarters.

Washington touchdowns came on passes from Kilmer to: wide receiver Frank Grant (53 yards) and back Mike Thomas (5 yards). The Redskins caught Giant's QB Craig Morton in his own end zone for a safety and thus the final two point margin.

In that game Kilmer passed for 257 yards (17-35). Thomas was the Skins' leading rusher with seven rushes for 56 yards — he also caught five passes for 54 yards.

Second Win

At home on September 19, Washington topped the expansion Seahawks 31-7. Kilmer again made the Redskins offense go.

He threw touchdown passes to: tight end Jean Fugett (12 yards), Thomas (10 yards) and Grant (5 yards). Thomas rushed for another touchdown while Mark Moseley added a 37-yard field goal.

Kilmer passed for 184 yards (17-25). Thomas carried for 143 yards and Fugett caught five passes for 50 yards.

After the first two weeks of the regular season, Kilmer was second among all NFC passers with a 93.9 rating. Thomas was second in scoring with 18 points.

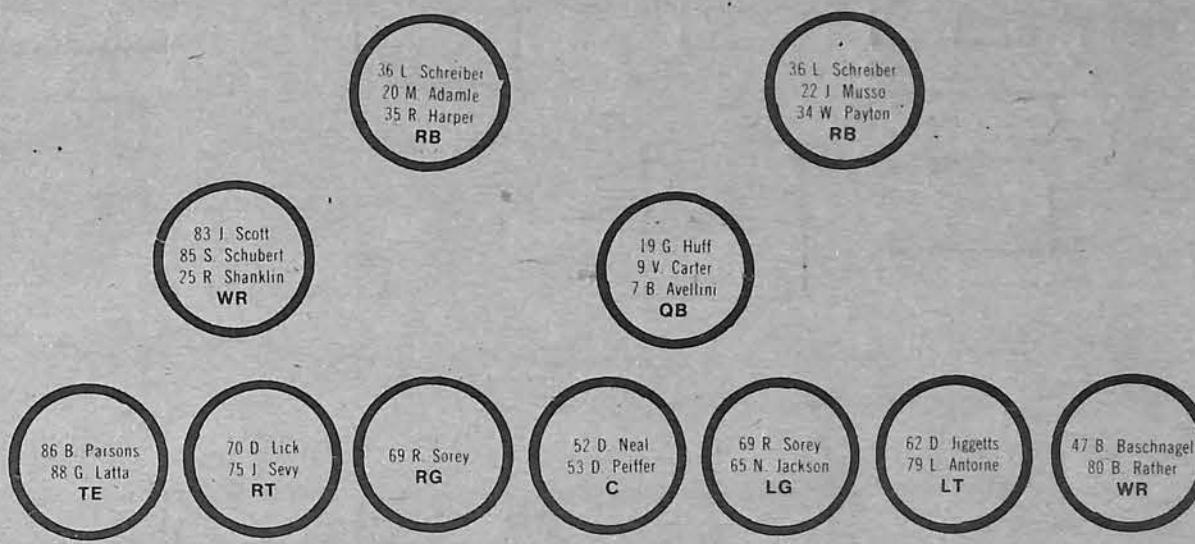
The Series

In the series dating to 1937, the Bears hold the overall lead against Washington 33-16-0. In regular season play, Chicago is ahead 9-7-0.

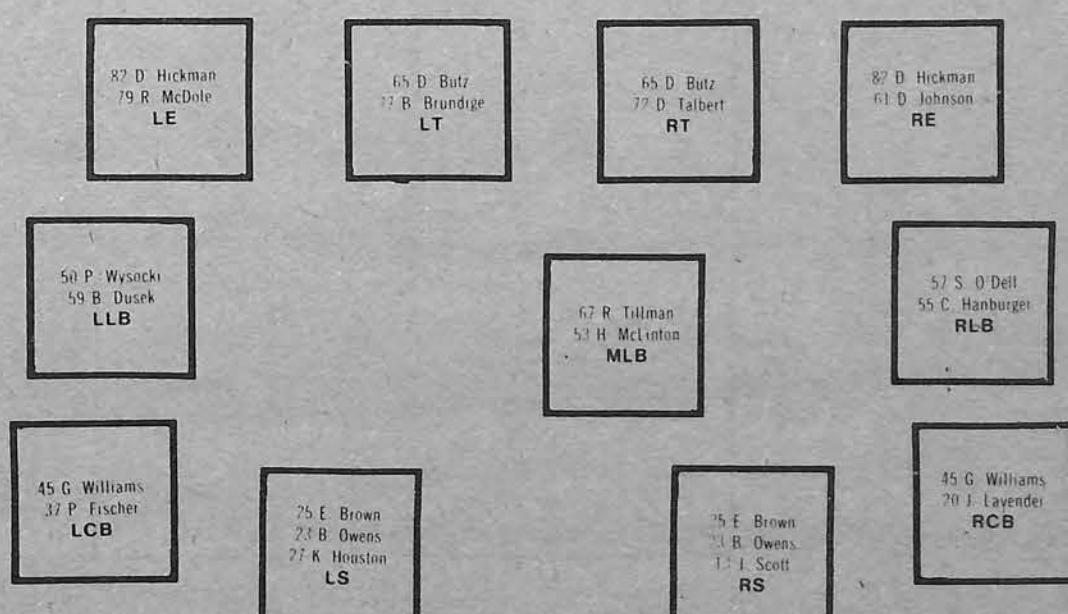
The Bears last met the Redskins during the regular season on December 15, 1974. In Washington on that date the Redskins scored a 42-0 triumph.

On November 14, 1971, Washington's last Soldier Field appearance, Chicago won a 16-15 decision.

Bears Offense



Redskins Defense



Numerically

Redskins Offense

Bears

No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Age	Yr	College
7	Avellini, Bob	QB	6-2	211	23	2	Maryland
9	Carter, Virg	QB	6-1	190	30	7	Brigham Young
16	Thomas, Bob	K	5-10	177	24	2	Notre Dame
19	Huff, Gary	QB	6-1	199	25	4	Florida St.
20	Adamle, Mike	RB	5-9	198	26	6	Northwestern
22	Musso, Johnny	RB	5-11	201	26	2	Alabama
24	Livers, Virgil	CB/PR	5-8	176	24	2	W. Kentucky
25	Shanklin, Ron	WR	6-1	187	28	7	N. Texas State
31	Knox, Bill	CB/S	5-9	190	25	3	Purdue
34	Payton, Walter	RB	5-10	203	22	2	Jackson St.
35	Harper, Roland	RB	5-11	215	23	2	Louisiana Tech
36	Schreiber, Larry	RB	6-0	205	29	6	Tennessee Tech
43	Clemons, Craig	S	5-11	195	27	5	Iowa
44	Schmidt, Terry	CB	6-0	177	24	3	Ball State
45	Fencik, Gary	S	6-1	190	22	R	Yale
46	Plank, Doug	S	5-11	198	23	2	Ohio State
47	Baschnagel, Brian	CB/KR	6-0	195	22	R	Ohio State
48	Ellis, Allan	CB	5-10	180	25	4	UCLA
50	Bryant, Waymond	LB	6-3	239	24	3	Tennessee St.
52	Neal, Dan	C/G	6-4	257	27	4	Kentucky
53	Peiffer, Dan	C	6-3	254	25	2	S.E. Missouri
54	Hicks, Tom	LB	6-4	235	23	1	Illinois
57	Rives, Don	LB	6-2	230	25	3	Texas Tech
58	Muckensturm, Jerry	LB	6-4	226	22	R	Arkansas St.
59	Brupbacher, Ross	LB	6-3	220	28	4	Texas A&M
60	Chambers, Wally	DT	6-6	250	25	4	E. Kentucky
62	Jiggetts, Dan	T	6-4	274	22	R	Harvard
65	Jackson, Noah	G	6-2	265	25	2	Tampa
68	Osborne, Jim	DT	6-3	248	27	5	Southern
69	Sorey, Revie	G	6-2	270	22	2	Illinois
70	Lick, Dennis	T	6-3	271	22	R	Wisconsin
71	Stillwell, Roger	DE	6-5	254	24	2	Stanford
73	Hartenstine, Mike	DE	6-3	256	23	2	Penn State
74	Meyers, Jerry	DE	6-4	252	22	R	N. Illinois
75	Sevy, Jeff	T/G	6-5	260	25	2	California
76	Rydalch, Ron	DT	6-4	262	24	2	Utah
79	Antoine, Lionel	T	6-6	266	26	5	S. Illinois
80	Rather, Bo	WR	6-1	188	25	4	Michigan
82	Berry, Royce	DE	6-3	239	30	8	Houston
83	Scott, James	WR	6-1	194	24	R	Henderson JC
85	Schubert, Steve	WR	5-10	187	25	3	Massachusetts
86	Parsons, Bob	TE/P	6-5	241	26	5	Penn State
88	Latta, Greg	TE	6-3	228	23	2	Morgan State

Redskins

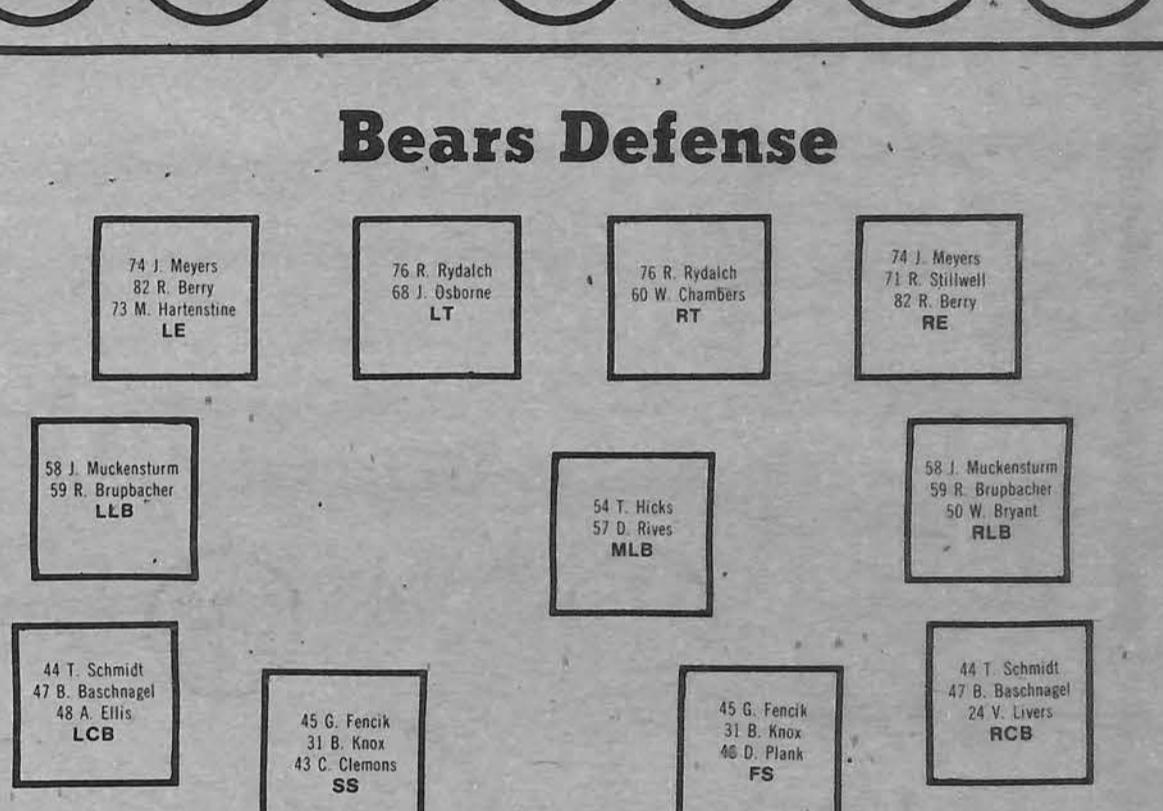
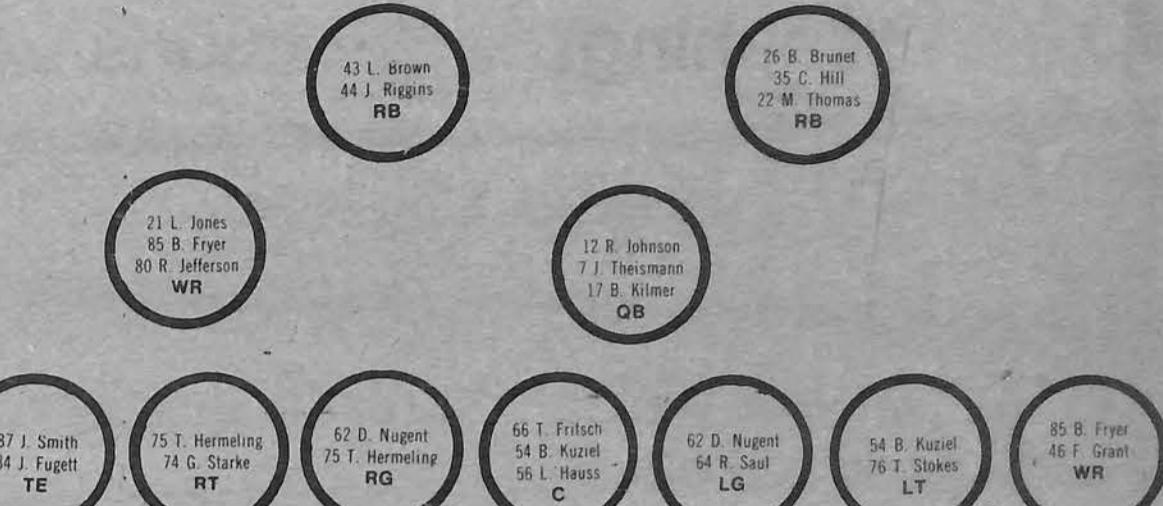
No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Age	Yr	College
3	Moseley, Mark	K	6-0	205	28	5	Austin State
4	Bragg, Mike	P	5-11	186	29	9	Richmond
7	Theismann, Joe	QB	6-0	184	27	3	Notre Dame
12	Johnson, Randy	QB	6-3	205	32	10	Texas A&I
13	Scott, Jake	S	6-0	188	31	7	Georgia
17	Kilmer, Bill	QB	6-0	204	37	15	UCLA
20	Lavender, Joe	CB	6-4	190	27	4	San Diego St.
21	Jones, Larry	WR	5-10	170	27	3	N.E. Mo. State
22	Thomas, Mike	RB	5-11	190	23	2	Nevada-Las Vegas
23	Owens, Brig	S	5-11	190	33	11	Cincinnati
25	Brown, Eddie	S	5-11	190	24	3	Tennessee
26	Brunet, Bob	RB	6-1	205	30	7	Louisiana Tech
27	Houston, Ken	S	6-3	198	31	10	Prairie View
35	Hill, Calvin	RB	6-4	227	29	7	Yale
37	Fischer, Pat	CB	5-9	170	36	16	Nebraska
43	Brown, Larry	RB	5-11	195	29	8	Kansas State
44	Riggins, John	RB	6-2	230	27	6	Kansas
45	Williams, Gerard	DB	6-1	184	24	1	Langston
46	Grant, Frank	WR	5-11	181	26	4	S. Colorado
50	Wysocki, Pete	LB	6-2	225	27	2	W. Michigan
53	McClinton, Harold	LB	6-2	235	29	8	Southern
54	Kuziel, Bob	C	6-5	255	26	2	Pittsburgh
55	Hanburger, Chris	LB	6-2	218	35	12	N. Carolina
56	Hauss, Len	C	6-2	235	34	13	Georgia
57	O'Dell, Stu	LB	6-1	220	24	3	Indiana
59	Dusek, Brad	LB	6-2	214	25	3	Texas A&M
61	Johnson, Dennis	DT	6-4	260	24	3	Delaware
62	Nugent, Dan	G	6-3	250	23	1	Auburn
64	Saul, Ron	G	6-3	254	28	7	Michigan St.
65	Butz, Dave	DT	6-7	285	26	4	Purdue
66	Fritsch, Ted	C	6-2	242	26	5	St. Norbert
67	Tillman, Rusty	LB	6-2	230	28	7	Northern Arizona
72	Talbert, Diron	DT	6-5	255	32	10	Texas
74	Starke, George	T	6-5	249	28	4	Columbia
75	Hermeling, Terry	T	6-5	255	30	7	Nevada Reno
76	Stokes, Tim	T	6-5	252	26	3	Oregon
77	Brundige, Bill	DT	6-5	270	27	7	Colorado
79	McDole, Ron	DE	6-4	265	37	16	Nebraska
80	Jefferson, Roy	WR	6-2	195	32	12	Utah
82	Hickman, Dallas	DE	6-6	235	24	1	Cal. Berkeley
84	Fugett, Jean	TE	6-4	226	24	5	Amherst
85	Fryer, Brian	WR	6-1	186	23	R	Alberta (Canada)
87	Smith, Jerry	TE	6-3	208	33	12	Arizona St.

BEARS

34	W. Payton
86	B. Parsons
P	
34	W. Payton
16	B. Thomas
K	
79	L. Antoine
16	B. Thomas
KO	
85	S. Schubert
47	B. Baschnagel
24	V. Livers
PR	
34	W. Payton
47	B. Baschnagel
KOR	
53	D. Peiffer
52	D. Neal
PC	
19	G. Huff
9	V. Carter
H	

Skins

7	J. Theismann
4	M. Bragg
P	
4	M. Bragg
3	M. Moseley
K	
4	M. Bragg
3	M. Moseley
KO	
4	M. Bragg
7	J. Theismann
H	
21	L. Jones
13	J. Scott
25	E. Brown
PR	
21	L. Jones
25	E. Brown
85	B. Fryer
KR	
56	L. Hauss
66	T. Fritsch
KC	
56	L. Hauss
66	T. Fritsch
PC	





Kevin Lamb

- A Bear Report Regular -

Relaxed Payton Shows Improvement

Walter Payton had finished his day's work in San Francisco, toting the football 28 times and traveling 148 yards, when reporters encircled his locker like moths around a summer lantern. Payton's voice is softer than his legs, so microphones were thrust as close to him as their owners' arms would extend. The folks from San Francisco weren't quite sure about what they were hearing.

"I feel bad about this one," Payton was saying. "I'm not satisfied with it."

That brought up the question of just what would satisfy Payton. In his 15th NFL game, not quite two months after his 22nd birthday, he had gained more than 100 yards for the third time. More, in fact, than he had gained in any previous pro game. He had also scored both Bear touchdowns in a 19-14 victory, bouncing off and dragging tacklers to do so, and he had set up his second touchdown by turning a simple counter play into a 26-yard run.

"Because on a couple of plays, I was stopped for no gain," Payton answered. "I should have had some yards on those."

"I have my own standards, and the coaching staff has its standards for me. I didn't meet my standards."

No Mistakes

He probably never will. His tolerance for mistakes makes no allowance for human error.



Walter Payton

OFF AND RUNNING in 1976 is Walter Payton. The Bear running back is shown here through the efforts of Bloomington, Illinois artist Bruce Dierdorff.

After the first two weeks of play, Payton was ranked third in rushing among all NFC players.

After a college career at Jackson State that included 3,563 yards and a national scoring record, Payton can say he has never satisfied himself on a football field. When he watches a game film, he looks for the mistakes. "I picture myself not making them again," he says.

For a while, those standards were more of an obstacle than an incentive. Payton was so disappointed with his rookie season, when he ran 196 times for 679 yards and led the league with a 31.7-yard kickoff return average, that he put off-season pressure on himself to be nearer perfect this year. "It wasn't a good start, as far as I'm concerned," he said. The first week of training camp this summer, Payton missed practice with dizzy reactions to nervousness.

"He wants to be a great football player," backfield coach Fred O'Connor says. "But prior to the middle of training camp, he was setting goals for himself that were unachievable. He's learned how to control it more now."

In other words, he tucks those goals into deeper caverns of his mind. He waits until he's off the field to think about them. That way he can devote his attention between the goal lines to improving.

Helping Background

"My background in music helped me cope with the frustrations I have about not improving fast enough," Payton said. He has been in bands and choirs much of his life and has won a U.S. soul train dance contest. He hasn't sung since leaving school, but he continued playing the

drums.

"Music relaxes me. It has helped me learn to concentrate. I can listen to a particular thing and that noise penetrates over all the others."

That helps on the field, where there are a lot of distractions. The only way you can get something done is by concentrating."

Another adjustment he made was to remind himself that the Bears' bad season last year was not solely the responsibility of Walter Payton. "I told myself I was just a part of the team."

He avoids a star's publicity. He repeatedly plays down the idea that his "part of the team" is its bread and butter. But few agree. "Without Payton, the Bears will win about four games," former Bear coach Abe Gibron said after they played an exhibition game against his current Tampa team.

"Walter's not introverted by any stretch of the imagination," O'Connor says. He's just not a verbalizer. He has in-depth thoughts, and he expresses them in his own way. He's not withdrawn or reclusive. I think he's just feeling more comfortable in his environment after so much was said about him when he first came here."

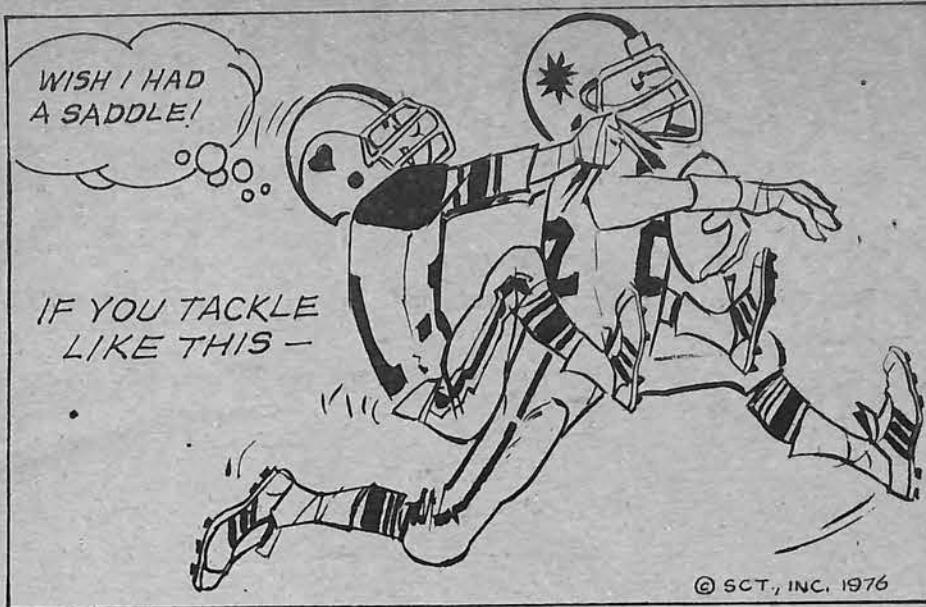
Offensive Line

Payton deflects attention from him by directing it toward the underpublicized offensive linemen. He says he feels guilty when he doesn't break long gainers behind their blocks. When he does score, he likes to hand the ball to a lineman in a thankful gesture. Revie Sorey received the first touchdown ball in the San Francisco game and spiked it behind his back.

"It was a tremendous feeling," Sorey said. "Offensive linemen don't get a chance to take part in the glamour very often. This is the way Walter expresses his emotion. He's a tremendous person. He's always talking to us, asking us if there's anything we need. He makes us look good and he makes us feel good."

Linemen speak of how they can afford to hold their blocks for less time because Payton goes past them so quickly. They mention his ability to follow blocking, which enables them to push a would-be tackler in the easiest direction instead of according to a predetermined plan. They want to help him run for 1,000 yards.

"It's just like having O.J. Simpson behind us," Sorey says. "He's got all the tools like O.J. It feels good when you come off the ball and hear footsteps going past you."



At right are the Bears' offensive statistics. Team and individual totals will appear here each week throughout the season. The totals WILL NOT include the results from the preceding Sunday game. Tackle totals can be found below.

Player	Total	Solo	Asst.	Sack-Yards
Rives	16	11	5	2/1
Osborne	12	7	5	3/28
Ellis	11	11	0	0/0
Chambers	11	8	3	1/9
Plank	11	8	3	0/0
Clemons	10	7	3	0/0
Livers	9	9	0	0/0
Bryant	8	6	2	1/2
Hartenstine	8	3	5	2/22
Brubacher	6	5	1	0/0
Stillwell	5	4	1	2/23
Buffone	5	3	2	0/0
Baschnagel	2	2	0	0/0
Muckensturm	2	1	1	0/0
Knox	2	1	1	0/0
Berry	2	0	2	0/0
Adamle	1	1	0	0/0
Rydalch	1	1	0	1/8
Hicks	1	1	0	0/0
Schmidt	1	0	1	0/0
Parsons	0	0	0	0/0

EAGLES DEFENSE GIVES FIRST NFL VICTORY

It was Feb. 11, 1976, when Dick Vermeil was introduced to the Philadelphia media as the new head coach of the Eagles. Among the more pointed questions was one which went something like this: Why would a young fellow, whose team had just won the Rose Bowl, walk into a situation where four previous coaches had failed to produce a .500-plus record over the last 10 seasons?

If it was going to be easy, I wouldn't be here," replied the 39-year-old Dick Vermeil, who had served his NFL apprenticeship under George Allen, Tommy Prothro, and Chuck Knox before leading UCLA to its Rose Bowl victory over Ohio State last January 1. "The easy jobs are where the good teams are, and they're all filled."

Easy isn't a Dick Vermeil training camp, opening July 3, earlier than any other NFL team. Easy isn't an 0-6 preseason. Nor, an opener in Dallas where the NFC Champion Cowboys won 27-7.

When would it change? Mark down Sunday, September 19, before 60,643 at Philadelphia's Veteran Stadium: Eagles 20, Giants 7.

"A lot of teams that lost seven in a row would have given up on the coaches and themselves," an emotional Vermeil said in a jubilant locker room after receiving the game ball. "But these guys hung together long enough and improved while losing until they put it all together. It won't be our last win, nor will it automatically mean we're going to win next week. But they got that first one under their belt; and, it's a just reward for all their hard work."

Bears 2-0

CHICAGO BEARS STATISTICS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE		RECEIVING		No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
S 12 (S)	Bears 10; Lions 3	57,359	Harper	5	47	9.4	18	0
S 19 (SF)	Bears 19; 49ers 12	46,699	Payton	4	30	7.5	17	0
S 26 (S)	Falcons at Chicago	1:00	Latta	2	87	43.5	58	0
O 3 (S)	Redskins at Chicago	1:00	Shanklin	2	32	16.0	35	0
O 10 (M)	Vikings at Minnesota	1:00	Schubert	1	23	23.0	23	0
O 17 (LA)	Rams at Los Angeles	1:00	Parsons	1	9	9.0	9	0
O 24 (DA)	Cowboys at Dallas	1:00	Rather	1	7	7.0	7	0
O 31 (S)	Vikings at Chicago	1:00						
N 7 (S)	Raiders at Chicago	1:00						
N 14 (S)	Packers at Chicago	1:00						
N 21 (P)	Lions at Pontiac	1:00						
N 28 (GB)	Packers at Green Bay	1:00						
D 5 (SE)	Seahawks at Seattle	1:00						
D 12 (S)	Broncos at Chicago	1:00						
TEAM STATISTICS		Bears	Opponent					
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS		27	31					
Rushing		14	10					
Passing		9	19					
Penalty		4	2					
Third Down Efficiency		8/30	12/34					
TOTAL NET YARDS		499	433					
Avg. Per Game		249.5	216.5					
Total Plays		121	138					
Avg. Per Play		4.1	3.1					
NET YARDS RUSHING		281	187					
Avg. Per Game		140.5	93.5					
Total Rushes		86	62					
Avg. Per Rush		3.3	3.0					
NET YARDS PASSING		218	246					
Avg. Per Game		109.0	123.0					
Tackled/Yards Lost		2/17	12/93					
Gross Yards		235	339					
Attempts/Completions		33/16	64/34					
Pct. of Completions		48.5	53.1					
Had Intercepted		1	2					
PUNTS/AVERAGE		16/36	515/42.5					
NET PUNTING AVERAGE		29.7	33.3					
PUNT RETURNS/AVERAGE		8/5.6	9/6.6					
KICKOFF RETURNS/AVERAGE		5/21.0	8/17.1					
MISC. RETURN/AVERAGE		1/3	0/0					
INTERCEPTIONS/AVG. RETURN		2/6.0	1/30					
PENALTIES/YARDS		11/78	17/115					
FUMBLES/BALL LOST		1/1	7/4					
TOUCHDOWNS		3	1					
Rushing		3	0					
Passing		0	1					
Returns		0	0					
EXTRA POINTS/ATTEMPTS		3/3	1/1					
FIELD GOALS/ATTEMPTS		2/4	2/3					
TOTAL POINTS		29	15					
SCORE BY PERIODS		1	2	3	4	OT	Total	
BEARS		7	12	7	3	x	29	
Opponents		3	5	0	7	x	15	
RUSHING		Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD		
Payton		53	218	4.7	26	2		
Harper		19	92	2.2	18	0		
Musso		7	22	3.1	7	1		
Rather		1	4	4.0	4	0		
Carter		1	0	0.0	0	0		
Adamle		3	-2	-0.7	2	0		
Avellini		2	-3	-1.5	-2	0		
BEARS TOTAL		86	281	3.3	26	3		
Opp. Total		62	187	3.0	14	0		
FIELD GOALS		1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+		
Thomas		0-0	1-1	1-1	0-1	0-1		
Opp. Total		0-0	2-2	0-1	0-0	0-0		
PASSING		Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct. TD
Avellini		32	15	212	46.9	6.63	0	0.0
Parsons		1	1	23	100.0	23.00	0	0.0
BEARS TOTAL		33	16	235	48.5	7.12	0	0.0
Opp. Total		64	34	339	53.1	5.30	1	1.6
INT.		1	1	2	3.1	52	12/93	60.8
Pct. Int.		3.1	58	2/17	59.7			
LG		58	2/17	55.9				
Lost/Att.		2/17	55.9					



Everyfan

by Elliott Anderson

Football Widow

Until I spent last Sunday with Doc and his wife Katie, I had no idea. My own wife doesn't much care for football, but she's always tolerated the time I spend watching games, pretty much the same way she's always tolerated the time I spend fishing. But Doc's Katie is another story altogether.

Saturday afternoon Doc calls to ask me if I'll spend the next day with him because it's the one Sunday afternoon of the season he's contracted — that's right, contracted — to spend at home.

"You're kidding?" I say.

"Nope," he replies, and with that wry grin of his, explains, "Sunday comes around and all of a sudden Katie goes sour in the mouth and mean in the eye and I can tell she'd like nothing better than to hit every TV set for a hundred miles around with lightning. She even let the air out of my tires once so I'd have to take a cab to the game. Under the circumstances, a contract seemed like a reasonable compromise. Now, if you're willing, I want you to be my arbiter."

I get to Doc and Katie's place early because I figure maybe I can help out. I don't really know what to expect — I'm not sure what Doc means by "arbiter" — but when Katie greets me at the door I can't believe my eyes. Football widow is right. She's even dressed for the part. She stands there in a long black dress and a hat with a veil and although I can't see much of her face, I can tell by the tone of her voice that she's in a grim mood. She takes the six pack I've brought along, says "We'll just save this for halftime, Doc's out back," and retreats to the kitchen.

I mentioned that Doc and Katie have got a contract. When I walk around back — Doc is leaning on the handle of his shovel — he explains it to me. "I get to pick my own Sunday so I always pick one with the team on the west coast, which means the game starts late, which gives me time to get a lot of the heavy stuff out of the way." Then he shows me a copy of the contract itself, which runs three pages and contains more clauses and sub-clauses than I'd have thought possible. First, there are the work categories: Inside, Outside, and Miscellaneous, which include everything from gardening and storm window hanging to furniture repair and silver polishing. Then there are what Doc calls the player protection clauses: 1) the big color console in the den stays on during the game and 2) although Katie maintains possession of the remote control device, she 3) can't switch away after the two minute warning in a) the first half or b) at any time during the fourth quarter if the difference in the score is a field goal or less. 4) In the event of a sudden death overtime Doc can bring whatever light and miscellaneous work he's got left into the den but only if a) he's completed 75% of both the Inside and Outside work, and b) only if he agrees to complete all work outstanding before midnight of the Sunday in question. Any contractual disagreements, any disputes that come up during the game, are to be resolved by arbitration, which is where I come in. There is also a lot of fine print which I don't bother to read.

Once we've been over everything and I've initialed the agreement clause, Doc and I get down to business. He's already taken care of

most of the Outside stuff, — the lawn and the garden — which leaves only the storm windows to wash and hang. We work like demons, Doc washing, me wiping, Katie hovering nearby to check for fingerprints and smudges, the two of us hanging the windows together while Katie retreats to the den to watch the first few minutes of "The Killer Shrews", an old TV re-run.

At two forty-five, we head inside to glue a leg back on the couch. Figuring a loosely played game, we've got roughly two and a half hours to complete 75% of what we've got to do and still make the fourth quarter. At three-thirty we're ready to head for the basement and the fruit cellar which needs mucking out.

"What about the shelves in the bathroom?" Katie wants to know.

"Be right up, sweetie," Doc calls from the basement stairs.

He leads me at once to a bench behind the furnace and — to my delight — shows me the old portable black and white TV set he's hidden away. The idea, I learn, is for one of us to keep Katie busy upstairs, moving furniture around and putting up bathroom shelves while the other cleans out the fruit cellar but with one eye glued to the game. We'll switch places once each quarter. And if anything should go wrong, if Katie should decide to visit the basement for some reason, the one upstairs will yell, "Butkus, Butkus, Butkus" and start jumping up and down which will give the one in the basement time to switch off the set and toss a tarpaulin over it.

Everything goes just fine until mid-way through the second quarter. I'm in the den with the game on the radio, keeping an eye on Katie. The Bears have held the 49'ers who punt to Virgil Livers, who promptly fumbles the return. On the next play from scrimmage, Plunkett throws one up for grabs near the goal line, and despite my coaching from Doc, I lose track of everything but that radio voice, and the next thing I know — after Ellis intercepts — Katie's disappeared. I yell "Butkus, Butkus, Butkus" and made a mad dash for the stairs, but it's too late.

In the basement, Katie's standing there with her hands on her hips.

"Seven-five" I say lamely, "they caught Payton for a safety."

At which point Katie hands me the copy of the contract I've initialed and says, "Now read the fine print, smarty." And there it is, in black and white, "Arbiters caught in violation of terms of this agreement are subject to all unfulfilled work conditions."

To make a long story short: Doc and I finish up about five-thirty — there really hasn't been all that much to do, just enough to keep us downstairs until the game's over. When we come up at last, tired and dirty, we look in at Katie who's sitting in Doc's recliner with her feet up watching Bob Lewandowski on Channel 26.

"How you feel, boys?" she asks with a big smile. She's changed out of her widow's weeds into a housecoat and slippers.

"Done," Doc and I say at the same time.

"Good for you." Then with a wink for me, she adds, "You know, you're not too bad. Whaddya say to a new contract next year, only this time you play for me?"

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Fran Spielman

- A Bear Report Regular -

Jeannie Morris: Getting the Best of Both Worlds

An age-old feminist once said that the second most overworked employees in the American labor force were working wives — falling just shy of the even more ambitious pace set by those who are also working mothers.

Instead of coming home from a hard day at the office to eat a nice, home-cooked dinner, the working wife and mother has to hustle home from the 9 to 5 rat race and cook that nice, home-cooked dinner. Then she must make herself at least semi-presentable for the arrival of her hard-working husband.

And then, maybe then, (if she has the appetite or the energy left to lift her fork), the working wife and mother can eat her dinner, too.

After that, there are still a few leftover issues to clean up. Like the dinner dishes for one, the kids daily worries for another, and her husband's even more pressing daily problems for a third.

The working wife and mother is constantly rushing to be there for all of them. Even though it seems everybody's usually too concerned with their own problems to be there for her.

The everyday pressures of the most over-worked member of the American labor force. Television sports reporter/writer/wife/mother Jeannie Morris has experienced them all, first-

the station that has that retired Chicago Bear flankerback as its sports anchorman.

Jeannie Morris has been a real fan of that former receiver for more years than she can remember, for more legitimate reasons than she can recall.

One of the most recent of those reasons is that Johnny Morris is her boss at Channel 2 News. The oldest is that for the last 18 years, he's also been her husband.

And perhaps the most important of those reasons, is that ever since she met him back at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Johnny Morris has been Jeannie's own biggest fan.

She admits for the first twelve years of their marriage, she never really did anything particularly noteworthy for Johnny to rave about.

"I was your run-of-the-mill housewife and mother, and pretty happy about it," Jeannie said. "I've always enjoyed my husband and my four kids, and I never had any plans whatsoever to work outside the home."

"I was never consumed with the desire to set the world on fire," she said. "But once I started working, I found I could get the best of both worlds. And the more I did in the outside world, the happier I was at home."

Success

Believe it or not, Jeannie Morris' sudden success story as a TV sports personality and best-selling author all began with the words, "Dear Diary".

As a self-declared "compulsive writer" throughout those first twelve "uneventful" years, Jeannie would satisfy her hidden desires by writing diaries and letters to friends and relatives, while Johnny was out on the football field.

The more footballs Johnny caught, the more letters and diaries Jeannie wrote, until she became so wrapped up in his career, she began writing mock newspaper columns on football, without a single thought of ever even trying to have them published.

But, as it so often does for the nation's handsome and well-spoken jocks, the opportunities to break into Chicago's print and broadcast media came knocking on Johnny Morris' front door.

Seeing his career as an NFL pass catcher coming to an end, Jeannie's husband snapped up the broadcasting opportunity to be a sports anchorman on the Channel 5 News.

But, as for the newspaper opportunity, to write a weekly sports column for the now-defunct Chicago American, well, Johnny just had to tell them he simply wasn't the right guy for the job.

But he did add there was somebody in his very own home, who was a lot more qualified than he.

"The Chicago American wanted Johnny to do a Monday-Morning quarterback column every week," Jeannie said. "But he said he was too close to all the players to sit back and critique their performance."

"So he went in there with some of my mock columns, and told the editors the person they really ought to hire was me."

After reading a few samples of Jeannie's work, the Chicago American editors realized Johnny was right.

But feeling their 1967 readers simply weren't ready for a real-live sports column by a person named Jeannie, they transferred the new feature to the women's page, and entitled it "Football as a Woman's Game."

"I went back and re-read a few of those early columns recently," Jeannie said, "and I realized even more than ever how much I hated doing them."

"I was supposed to try and capture the female reader who was surrounded by football in her home, but could never seem to get a handle on just what the game was all about," she said. "But because I know the game so well myself, the problem was, I never knew how much fundamental knowledge to throw in."

Thanks to her natural flare for the art of writing, Jeannie didn't have to worry about that dilemma for too long.

Quicker than you can say "Football as a Woman's Game", Johnny's petite and charming wife was hired away by the Chicago Daily News as a real-live sports reporter, whose stories appeared on the real-live sports pages.

Now TV

"I was really enjoying the newspaper beat," Jeannie said, "when about a year or so later, I went to pick Johnny up at work, and one of the NBC execs approached me with the idea of getting into television."

"He told me he just loved my columns in the newspaper, and he felt there was no reason why I couldn't do the exact same thing on television."

Although most husbands might have been more concerned with preserving their own territory, Jeannie's biggest fan was all for the idea. ("He's got the most secure male ego I've ever known. Nothing threatens him — Not even Barbara Walters.")

"I was really apprehensive about it, so if Johnny had said anything negative at all, I would have been just as happy to continue my writing," Jeannie said. "But, not only was he in favor of it. He was actually pushing me to do it."

Johnny Morris went even farther than that. When Jeannie was unable to break away to the 1970 Super Bowl in New Orleans, to do a filmed audition piece she'd written about Viking quarterback Joe Kapp and his un-athletic son, Johnny served as her taller, broad-shouldered stand-in.

"Johnny told Joe to look at the second button on his coat during the interview, and throw in an occasional, 'Yes, Jeannie — No, Jeannie' so no one would ever know I wasn't the one asking the questions," Jeannie said.

"But when I put it all together, the directors at NBC were so impressed, they wanted to put it on the air."

Her professional ethics forced Jeannie to spill the beans right there — that it was really her husband Johnny who'd made the trip to New Orleans. But the Channel 5 honchos were so amused and intrigued with her ingenuity, they hired Jeannie anyway.

Continued on Next Page

Fran Spielman is a news and sports reporter for Chicago's WIND Radio.



Jeannie Morris

hand. And believe it or not, she wouldn't have it any other way.

Jeannie and Johnny

"They don't come often, but I have to admit, there are those days when I walk in the front door at night, thinking how fantastic it would have been to have somebody else working as the housewife and mother all day," Jeannie said.

"That way, I wouldn't have to worry about cooking the dinner and taking care of the house. I could put my feet up instead, and watch the news."

If she ever did get a chance to watch the news, it would no doubt be the Channel 2 News,

Letters to the Editor

Bear Report welcomes all Letters to the Editor. Due to space limitations, it may be necessary to shorten letters to fill the space available. Bear Report does not necessarily agree with the views stated in letters we receive.

Letters to the Editor 1948 N. Lincoln Chicago, Ill. 60614



Encouragement from Arizona

Dear Editor:

I've been an avid Bear fan for 19 of my 25 years. But unfortunately I now live and work in a small town (Page) in northern Arizona. Perhaps you can understand my plight during the past four years.

Being away from Chicago I can get no news items on the Bears, no local TV coverage, no Bear fans to share the season with, very little national TV coverage and worst of all, no home Bear games.

But now I have your Bear Report. I again feel like a bona fide Bear fan. This journal is unequalled by any other, devoted to any subject, in bringing its readers and fans such a thorough array of information and insight.

I grew up in Chicago and I grew up a Bear fan. My dad and myself have made our own Bear scrapbooks since 1942 ... I took over in 1957. We've had season tickets since I can remember and boy can I remember ...

.... Bobby Douglass running through people, Dick Butkus and Gale Sayers in 1965, Mike Ditka and Ronnie Bull, Fortunato, George, Morris, Willie Galimore, Rick Casares, Ed Brown, Blanda, Sprinkle and eight world championships.

This year I await the battle for the ninth. I've been so excited about this year's team that I could hardly wait for the season to start, it's all I've been talking about. All I've heard about here is the Rams, Cowboys and Oilers. It's agony to hear how good this team is and that team is.

Now the Monsters of the Midway are back in splendid fashion ... young, aggressive, strong and superbly coached.

As soon as you make available a life subscription to the Bear Report sign me up. I absolutely hope that you have the best of luck with the Bear Report and along with the Bear team and staff I hope you enjoy a successful season.

A loyal fan ...
Steven Pasqua
Page, Arizona

(Steve, thanks for your letter and we'll start to work on that Bear Report Life Membership right away. BR)

OTIS ARMSTRONG LOOKING FOR 1,000

The Hall of Fame weekend in Canton, Ohio, is part of the traditional kickoff to another NFL season. This year's classic between Denver and Detroit had a special meaning to the Broncos since it marked the return of running back Otis Armstrong, who missed the final 10 games of 1975 with a hamstring injury.

"It's amazing the lift we got watching Otis run at Canton," says Broncos' wide receiver Jack Dolbin. "I didn't get to see him much last year because he was hurt in the summer and then again right at the start of the season. But I remember that game against the Lions. I'd see a hole and think it was closed and yet he'd be through it. You can see how he turns a touchdown out of something you wouldn't think would earn a yard. From a player's point of view, that's a tremendous boost."

Armstrong, the NFL's leading rusher in 1974 with 1,408 yards, agrees that the preseason opener was a big moment for him.

"It was a real emotional thing for me," he says. "I remember going out thinking 'Here's a chance to prove I'm back, to do well' and I got all pumped up. I was really excited. It was like

A Vote for Improvement

Dear Editor:

I'm an avid Bear fan and also a fan of the Bear Report. I am glad to see the Bears doing so well after their first two games. I am sure that they will continue to win this season. I am also glad to see a newspaper that devotes all of its pages to this improved team.

I was wondering if there was any way I could obtain a Chicago Bear jersey? The Bears are my team and I would love to wear their shirt to let others know who will be the next Superbowl champs. If you could tell me how I could obtain a Bear jersey I would appreciate it.

Sincerely,
Peter Leviton
Evanston, Illinois

(Pete, the place to check with would be the Button House, 1205 East Sanborn, Winona, Minnesota 55987. They handle a lot of NFL merchandise there, including Bear souvenirs. BR)

Gift Subscription

Dear Editor:

I have been a Bear fan for over 30 years and I received my first copy of the Bear Report today. I am so pleased to have such a comprehensive report of all the Bears and their doings. Keep up the good work.

I also get the Chicago Tribune daily just to keep up with what my Bears do and your paper is now the answer for every Bear fan.

I have a dear friend in Sioux City, Iowa who also is a 100% Bear fan and I want you to send him a gift subscription from me. His name is P.D. Furlong and I've enclosed his address. Just tell him it's an early Christmas present.

My 16-year old is also a die-hard Bear fan and when he comes home from school today he will be very pleased to see your newspaper. Thank you for the great Bear Report.

Sincerely,
Tombstone Johnny Owen
Algona, Iowa

(John, your gift subscription is on its way to Sioux Falls. Thanks. BR)

Fran Spielman Continued

In spite of their recent network jump, the team of Johnny and Jeannie Morris has been knocking 'em dead ever since ... with few, if any husband wife squabbles along the way.

In fact, about the only professional argument sports anchorman Johnny, and sports reporter Jeannie ever have, is the one concerning Jeannie's unusually low on-camera profile.

"Johnny gets mad at me for not including more visuals of myself in my film pieces," Jeannie said. "He thinks the identity bit is good for television."

"A lot of TV reporters make it their business to get their faces on camera at the beginning and end of their pieces," she said. "But I consider most of those opens and closes mere throwaways. And I simply refuse to include them at the expense of my story."

What's important to Jeannie Morris, is NOT getting her face on camera, so she can increase the number of Chicagoans who will know who she is.

What's important is that SHE knows her own identity. Jeannie Morris is a proud member of the most overworked Americans in our nation's labor force — wife, mother of four, sports reporter, and best selling author.

And, believe it or not, she wouldn't have it any other way.

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1976 National Football League Schedule

(All Times Local)

First Weekend

- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
 - Baltimore 27, New England 13
 - Cincinnati 17, Denver 7
 - Chicago 10, Detroit 3
 - Los Angeles 30, Atlanta 14
 - Minnesota 40, New Orleans 9
 - Washington 19, New York Giants 17
 - Cleveland 38, New York Jets 17
 - Dallas 27, Philadelphia 7
 - Oakland 31, Pittsburgh 28
 - St. Louis 30, Seattle 24
 - San Diego 30, Kansas City 16
 - San Francisco 26, Green Bay 14
 - Houston 20, Tampa Bay 0

- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
 - Miami 30, Buffalo 21

Second Weekend

- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
 - St. Louis 29, Green Bay 0
 - Detroit 24, Atlanta 10
 - Chicago 19, San Francisco 12
 - Baltimore 28, Cincinnati 27
 - Pittsburgh 31, Cleveland 14
 - Dallas 24, New Orleans 0
 - Houston 13, Buffalo 3
 - Los Angeles 10, Minnesota 10, OT
 - New England 30, Miami 14
 - Philadelphia 20, New York Giants 7
 - Denver 46, New York Jets 3
 - San Diego 23, Tampa Bay 0
 - Washington 31, Seattle 7

- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
 - Oakland 24, Kansas City 21

Third Weekend

- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
 - Cincinnati 28, Green Bay 7
 - Atlanta 10, Chicago 0
 - Dallas 30, Baltimore 27
 - Buffalo 14, Tampa Bay 9
 - Denver 44, Cleveland 13
 - Minnesota 10, Detroit 9
 - New England 30, Pittsburgh 27
 - New Orleans 27, Kansas City 17
 - Los Angeles 24, New York Giants 10
 - Miami 16, New York Jets 0
 - Oakland 14, Houston 13
 - San Diego 43, St. Louis 24
 - San Francisco 37, Seattle 21

- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
 - Washington at Philadelphia 9:00

Fourth Weekend

- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3
 - Cincinnati at Cleveland 1:00
 - Dallas at Seattle 1:00
 - Detroit at Green Bay 1:00
 - Houston at New Orleans 1:00
 - Kansas City at Buffalo 1:00
 - Los Angeles at Miami 4:00
 - New York Giants at St. Louis 1:00
 - Oakland at New England 1:00
 - New York Jets at San Francisco 1:00
 - Philadelphia at Atlanta 1:00
 - San Diego at Denver 2:00
 - Tampa Bay at Baltimore 2:00
 - Washington at Chicago 1:00

- MONDAY, OCTOBER 4
 - Pittsburgh at Minnesota 8:00

Fifth Weekend

- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10
 - Atlanta at New Orleans
 - Buffalo at New York Jets
 - Chicago at Minnesota
 - Dallas at New York Giants
 - Denver at Houston
 - Kansas City at Washington
 - Miami at Baltimore
 - New England at Detroit
 - Oakland at San Diego
 - Pittsburgh at Cleveland
 - St. Louis at Philadelphia
 - Seattle vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
 - Tampa Bay at Cincinnati

- MONDAY, OCTOBER 11
 - San Francisco at Los Angeles

Sixth Weekend

- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17
 - Baltimore at Buffalo
 - Chicago at Los Angeles
 - Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
 - Cleveland at Atlanta
 - Dallas at St. Louis
 - Detroit at Washington
 - Houston at San Diego
 - Kansas City at Miami
 - New Orleans at San Francisco
 - New York Giants at Minnesota
 - Oakland at Denver
 - Philadelphia at Green Bay
 - Seattle at Tampa Bay

- MONDAY, OCTOBER 18
 - New York Jets at New England

Seventh Weekend

- SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23
 - Atlanta at San Francisco

- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24
 - Baltimore at New York Jets
 - Chicago at Dallas
 - Cincinnati at Houston
 - Denver at Kansas City
 - Detroit at Seattle
 - Green Bay at Oakland
 - Los Angeles at New Orleans
 - Miami at Tampa Bay
 - Minnesota at Philadelphia
 - New England at Buffalo
 - Pittsburgh at New York Giants
 - San Diego at Cleveland

- MONDAY, OCTOBER 25
 - St. Louis at Washington 9:00

Eighth Weekend

Ninth Weekend

- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31
 - Cleveland at Cincinnati
 - Dallas at Washington
 - Denver at Oakland
 - Green Bay at Detroit
 - Kansas City at Tampa Bay
 - Minnesota at Chicago
 - New England at Miami
 - New Orleans at Atlanta
 - New York Jets at Buffalo
 - Philadelphia at New York Giants
 - San Diego at Pittsburgh
 - San Francisco at St. Louis
 - Seattle at Los Angeles

- MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1
 - Houston at Baltimore

Tenth Weekend

- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7
 - Atlanta at Seattle
 - Baltimore at San Diego
 - Buffalo at New England
 - Cleveland at Houston
 - Detroit at Minnesota
 - Miami at New York Jets
 - New Orleans vs Green Bay (Milw.)
 - New York Giants at Dallas
 - Oakland at Chicago
 - Philadelphia at St. Louis
 - Pittsburgh at Kansas City
 - Tampa Bay at Denver
 - Washington at San Francisco

- MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8
 - Los Angeles at Cincinnati

Eleventh Weekend

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- Chicago at Detroit
- Cincinnati at Kansas City
- Cleveland at Tampa Bay
- Dallas at Atlanta
- Houston at Pittsburgh
- Los Angeles at San Francisco
- Minnesota vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
- New England at New York Jets
- New Orleans at Seattle
- New York Giants at Denver
- Oakland at Philadelphia
- San Diego at Buffalo
- Washington at St. Louis

- MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22
 - Baltimore at Miami

Twelfth Weekend

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 (Thanksgiving Day)

- Buffalo at Detroit
- St. Louis at Dallas

- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28
 - Atlanta at Houston
 - Denver at New England
 - Green Bay at Chicago
 - Kansas City at San Diego
 - Miami at Cleveland
 - New Orleans at Los Angeles
 - New York Jets at Baltimore
 - Philadelphia at Washington
 - Pittsburgh at Cincinnati
 - Seattle at New York Giants
 - Tampa Bay at Oakland

- MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29
 - Minnesota at San Francisco

Thirteenth Weekend

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

- Atlanta at Los Angeles
- Baltimore at St. Louis

- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5
 - Buffalo at Miami
 - Chicago at Seattle
 - Dallas at Philadelphia
 - Detroit at New York Giants
 - Green Bay at Minnesota
 - Houston at Cleveland
 - Kansas City at Denver
 - New Orleans at New England
 - San Francisco at San Diego
 - Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh
 - Washington at New York Jets

- MONDAY, DECEMBER 6
 - Cincinnati at Oakland

Fourteenth Weekend

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

- Los Angeles at Detroit
- Minnesota at Miami
- Pittsburgh at Houston

- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12
 - Buffalo at Baltimore
 - Cincinnati at New York Jets
 - Cleveland at Kansas City
 - Denver at Chicago
 - Green Bay at Atlanta
 - New England at Tampa Bay
 - St. Louis at New York Giants
 - San Diego at Oakland
 - San Francisco at New Orleans
 - Seattle at Philadelphia
 - Washington at Dallas

NATIONAL CONFERENCE						AMERICAN CONFERENCE							
Eastern Division						Eastern Division							
	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA		W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Dallas	3	0	0	1.000	81	34	Baltimore	2	1	0	.667	85	67
Washington	2	0	0	1.000	50	24	Miami	2	1	0	.667	60	51
St. Louis	2	1	0	.667	83	67	New England	2	1	0	.667	73	68
Philadelphia	1	1	0	.500	27	34	Buffalo	1	2	0	.333	38	52
N.Y. Giants	0	3	0	.000	34	63	N.Y. Jets	0	3	0	.000	20	100
Central Division						Central Division							
Minnesota	2	0	1	.833	60	19	Houston	2	1	0	.667	46	17
Chicago	2	1	0	.667	29	25	Cincinnati	2	1	0	.667	72	42
Detroit	1	2	0	.333	36	30	Cleveland	1	2	0	.333	65	92
Green Bay	0	3	0	.000	21	83	Pittsburgh	1	2	0	.333	86	75
Western Division						Western Division							
Los Angeles	2	0	1	.833	64	34	San Diego	3	0	0	1.000	83	31
San Francisco	2	1	0	.667	75	54	Oakland	3	0	0	1.000	69	62
Atlanta	1	2	0	.333	34	54	Denver	2	1	0	.667	97	33
New Orleans	1	2	0	.333	36	81	Kansas City	0	3	0	.000	54	81
Seattle	0	3	0	.000	52	98	Tampa Bay	0	3	0	.000	9	57



BEAR REPORT

Chicago Bear Report September 30, 1976

TV Pullout Section

Take this special section with you to watch the Monday Night games through the regular season. The TV Pullout Section includes a listing of all nationally televised games for the 1976 season and rosters for the Monday Night games.

Regular Season TV Schedule

Monday Night Games At A Glance **(All times local)**

Sep. 13	Miami 30, Buffalo 21	
Sep. 20	Oakland 24, Kansas City 21	
Sep. 27	Washington at Philadelphia	9:00
Oct. 4	Pittsburgh at Minnesota	8:00
Oct. 11	San Francisco at Los Angeles.	6:00
Oct. 18	New York Jets at New England.	9:00
Oct. 25	St. Louis at Washington.	9:00
Nov. 1	Houston at Baltimore	9:00
Nov. 8	Los Angeles at Cincinnati	9:00
Nov. 15	Buffalo at Dallas.	8:00
Nov. 22	Baltimore at Miami.	9:00
Nov. 29	Minnesota at San Francisco.	6:00
Dec. 6	Cincinnati at Oakland	6:00
(Fourteenth game of ABC nationally televised series will be Los Angeles at Detroit, Saturday night, Dec. 11, 9:00 local time)		

BEARS ON RADIO

All Chicago Bear football games can be heard exclusively on WGN Radio, 720 AM in Chicago. Join Bill Berg and Mike Pyle, or Jack Brickhouse and Irv Kupcinet for each week's play-by-play account during the 1976 season.

TV Doubleheader Games

(Following Sunday games are scheduled to be seen in many market areas as part of television doubleheaders)

Sep. 12	Oakland 31, Pittsburgh 28
Sep. 19	Los Angeles 10, Minnesota 10
Sep. 26	Dallas 30, Baltimore 27
Oct. 3	Los Angeles at Miami (CBS)
Oct. 10	Miami at Baltimore (NBC)
Oct. 17	Dallas at St. Louis (CBS)
Oct. 24	Green Bay at Oakland (CBS)
	Cincinnati at Houston (NBC)
Oct. 31	Dallas at Washington (CBS)
Nov. 7	Detroit at Minnesota (CBS)
Nov. 14	Miami at Pittsburgh (NBC)
Nov. 21	Washington at St. Louis (CBS)
Nov. 28	Pittsburgh at Cincinnati (NBC)
Dec. 5	Buffalo at Miami (NBC)
Dec. 12	Washington at Dallas (CBS)

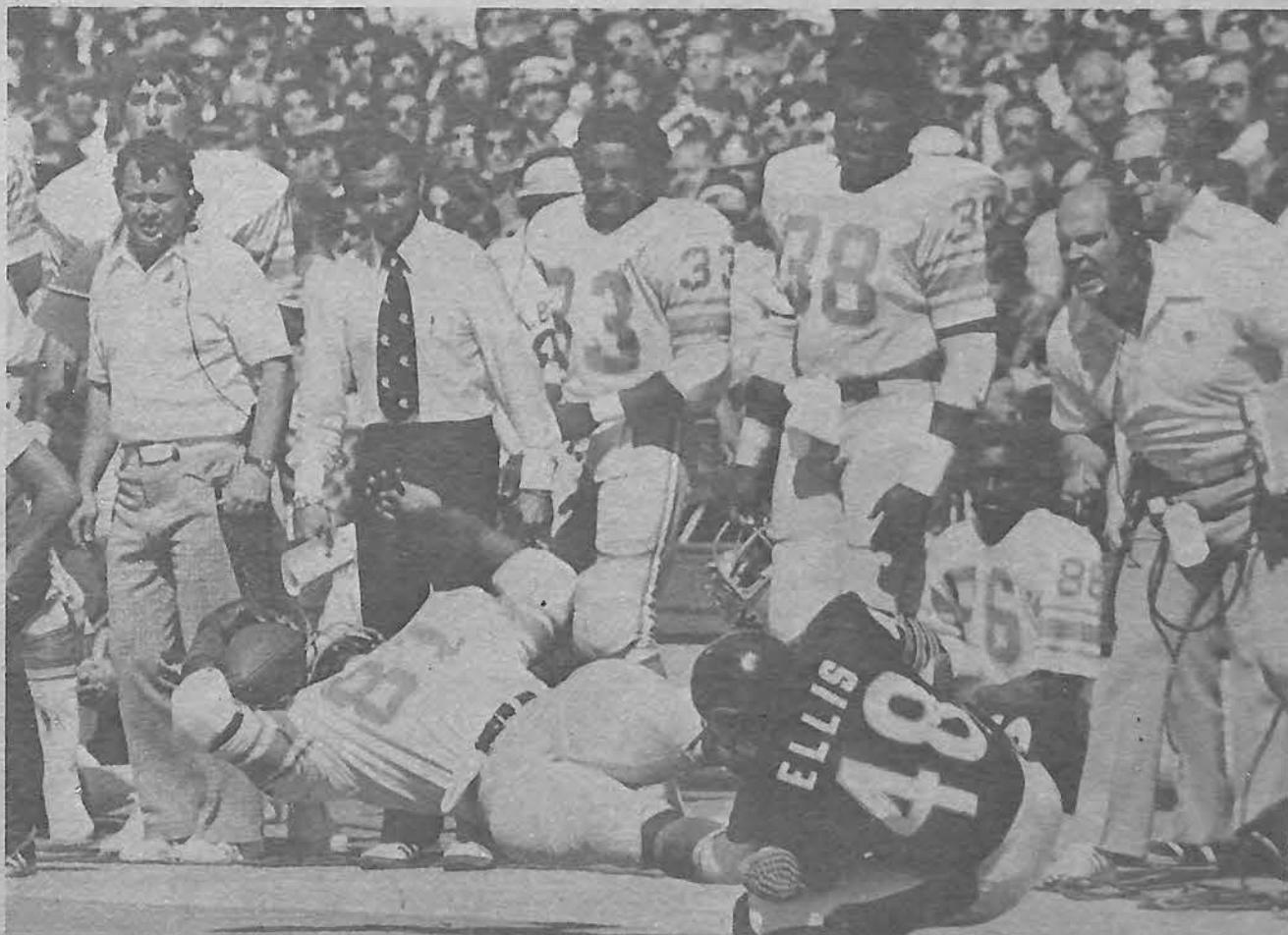
Postseason

Sat., Dec. 18. AFC & NFC Divisional Playoffs (NBC and CBS)
Sun., Dec. 19 AFC & NFC Divisional Playoffs (NBC and CBS)
Sun., Dec. 26 AFC Championship Game (NBC)
NFC Championship Game (CBS)
Sun., Jan. 9 . . . Super Bowl XI at Rose Bowl, Pasadena (NBC)
Mon., Jan. 17 . . . AFC-NFC Pro Bowl at Seattle (night, ABC)

The Bears Regionally

The following ten television stations have been designated as members of CBS's Chicago Bears regional network for 1976. Bob Cochran, the National Football League's broadcast coordinator, does offer a word of caution saying that area stations may be added or dropped from the network depending on the game's regional importance.

Those stations now on the list include:	
WHBF-TV	Rock Island, Illinois
WCIA-TV	Champaign, Illinois
WMBD-TV	Peoria, Illinois
WCEE-TV	Rockford, Illinois
WBBM-TV	Chicago, Illinois
WTHI-TV	Terre Haute, Indiana
WSBI-TV	South Bend, Indiana
WANE-TV	Fort Wayne, Indiana
WISH-TV	Indianapolis, Indiana
WFYI-TV	Lafayette, Indiana



GETTING HIS MAN is Bear cornerback Allan Ellis. His man here is Detroit Lion tight end David Hill. Lion head coach Rick Forzano (standing second from left) is not a happy man. (Photo by Bill Smith)

JACK PARDEE SHOW

During the 1976 regular season join Bear head coach Jack Pardee and host Johnny Morris on WBBM-TV (Channel 2 in Chicago). The Jack Pardee Show will air each week one hour before the Bears' TV kick-off time.

Sheldon Surecatch Hopes So; Future Bart Starr's Do Not!

Is The College Draft Extinct?



The time: January, 1977.

The situation: a chaotic scramble by NFL clubs for the very best graduating college football talent.

The following: a newspaper account of the way it could be.

Sheldon Surecatch, college football's premier pass receiving threat who set several NCAA receiving records this season, today shunned the advances of more than two dozen National Football League clubs to sign a multi-year contract with the Los Angeles Rams.

Surecatch, a 6-3, 240-pound wide receiver-tight end with 4.2 speed, will be paid an undisclosed amount of cash by the Rams in addition to what club general manager Don Klosterman called a "few special bonuses."

Surecatch will be guaranteed by the Rams property rights to the entire beach front community of Malibu, a biographical feature length motion picture to be made at Universal Studios called "I Catch as I Please," his own weight in long playing Gladys Knight and the Pips albums, and Wilshire Boulevard, which is soon to be renamed "Surecatch Strada," informed sources report.

"I owe it all to the Yazoo Smith decision," the happy ex-collegian said. "Without the college draft to stop me I've been able to acquire things from the Rams another team would not have been willing to give me, especially those Gladys Knight albums - toooo much!"

A bit farfetched you snicker? Think again!

The common draft, even with its inherent deficiencies, is still a most effective and orderly way to distribute college talent among the NFL's clubs.

What good has the draft accomplished? One thing, which Commissioner Pete Rozelle loves to discuss, is parity. Rozelle says that a weak club can catch up with its stronger foes by using the draft wisely to restock a failing roster. Players benefit in a couple of ways, too.

Top round draft choices can expect a hearty bonus for signing. Lower round draftees are at least guaranteed a healthy looking over by their respective clubs, because a considerable investment has been made in scouting them. And



Illustration by J. Daniel Chapman

don't think PR directors don't love to tout a 17th-round draft choice who came on to make the club. Remember Bart Starr?

From the league management side, there is order and no attempt by one club to pirate a draft choice away from another club. Twenty-eight teams are not trying to outbid each other for a single player, which would lead, potentially, to the creation of a Sheldon Surecatch type of monster.

But the draft isn't all sunshine and roses, either. When a team drafts a player, under the old system, it's for keeps, for perpetuity. He can never negotiate with another club without the consent of the team which drafted him. If the player and the club can't get together on a contract, the athlete is left high and dry.

It is on this point that U.S. District Court Judge William B. Bryant (no relation to Cullen, we trust) struck down the NFL college draft system as being in violation of the Sherman and Clayton antitrust acts. He says the draft is illegal because it is based on an agreement among team owners that negotiations with top quality graduating college athletes will be allocated to one team only and that no other team will deal with that player.

Bryant's ruling was in favor of

James "Yazoo" Smith, a former high draft pick of the Washington Redskins, who filed suit against his former club on the grounds that if he had not been bound to the Redskins by the rules of the draft he might have been able to sign with another club for more money.

Smith, a star defensive back for the University of Oregon in 1968, signed with Washington for a \$23,000 bonus, a promise of an additional \$5,000 if he made the team, and an annual salary of \$22,000. Smith sustained a neck injury his rookie season and was never able to play again. He contended in his suit that if he were not bound to the Redskins he would have been free to negotiate a contract that would have protected him against losing his pay when he suffered the injury.

As expected NFL attorneys will appeal the case. Smith was awarded triple damages of \$276,000 plus all court costs and attorneys' fees connected with the suit, originally filed in 1970.

NFL management tends to side with the opinion expressed by Tex Schramm, general manager of the Dallas Cowboys, who said, "This is just another instance where the courts are attempting to apply laws to a unique situation that the laws weren't intended for or aren't applicable to."

The loophole in Bryant's ruling for the survival of the college draft is the fact that a modified draft, reportedly agreed to in a pending collective bargaining agreement between league management and players, would be exempt from antitrust action.

In simpler words, the courts will take a "hands-off" policy if the players' union and the management council both ratify a new contract which includes provisions for a college draft.

Such a document has already been placed before the players association but some backstage politicking by NFLPA Executive Director Ed Garvey prevented the measure from coming to a vote.

Dick Anderson, the newly elected president of the players' association, huddled with Dan Rooney, head of the owners' bargaining team, to formulate a new proposal for the rules governing the college draft. The new plan allows for the best parts of the old system while doing away with the sticky area of perpetuity.

Under the Anderson-Rooney proposal, any player who can't come to terms with the team which drafted him may sit out the year and be drafted again the following year. If he again fails to sign, he becomes a free agent after sitting out a second year. If

he played in the Canadian Football League he would be eligible for the NFL draft after concluding that contract, and if he failed to sign after two drafts he would become a free agent after the one-year wait.

This clearly defined procedure is welcomed by many of the players whom Anderson represents, but Garvey doesn't like the proposal since it still imposes a limitation on the freedom of player movement. Garvey wants total freedom or nothing at all, a position which risks both the players' pension fund and insurance benefits. Anderson wants compromise and a continuance of these benefits.

At the most recent meeting of the NFLPA hierarchy in Chicago, Garvey reportedly threatened the player reps with the possibility of personal liability if they distributed for ratification the owners' latest proposal, the one containing the Anderson-Rooney modification.

Garvey said that ratification of any contract containing modifications of items currently under litigation, i.e. the college draft, might leave the reps open as defendants in suits filed by other players who could contend that their antitrust rights had been violated, if the appeals of the suits against the NFL were rejected.

Publicly, Garvey assures that the decision to table the new contract proposal was based on its own merit - not the threat of litigation. Privately, there is unrest among many player reps who feel they were threatened by Garvey's sabre-rattling.

Will there be a college draft in 1977? We would like to think so. It would be the sensible thing to do.

In the next few months, the stage is set for a final struggle to see who really runs the NFLPA - the players who look to President Dick Anderson for leadership or those who follow Ed Garvey's edicts.

It will be an interesting test of strength. The future of pro football as we know it may hang in the balance, not to mention the college draft.



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Los Angeles at Miami

Sunday, October 3 (CBS-TV) 3 p.m. CDT

Rams

No	Name	Pos	Yr	College
9	Jackson, Rusty	P	R	Louisiana St.
10	Dempsey, Tom	K	8	Palomar J.C.
11	Haden, Pat	QB	R	S. California
12	Harris, James	QB	7	Grambling
16	Jaworski, Ron	QB	3	Youngstown St.
20	Preece, Steve	S	8	Oregon St.
22	Cappelletti, John	RB	3	Penn St.
27	Thomas, Pat	CB	R	Texas A&M
28	Jackson, Monte	CB	2	San Diego St.
29	Jackson, Harold	WR	9	Jackson St.
30	McCutcheon, Lawrence	RB	4	Colorado St.
32	Bryant, Cullen	RB	4	Colorado
33	Scribner, Rob	RB	4	UCLA
39	Phillips, Rod	RB	2	Jackson St.
42	Elmendorf, Dave	S	6	Texas A&M
45	Bertelsen, Jim	RB	5	Texas
48	Simpson, Bill	S	3	Michigan St.
49	Perry, Rod	CB	2	Colorado
50	McLain, Kevin	LB	R	Colorado St.
52	Kay, Rick	LB	3	Colorado
53	Youngblood, Jim	LB	4	Tennessee Tech
54	Reece, Geoff	C	R	Washington St.
55	Ekern, Carl	LB	R	San Jose St.
58	Robertson, Isiah	LB	6	Southern Univ.
60	Harrah, Dennis	G	2	Miami, Fla.
61	Saul, Rich	C	7	Michigan St.
63	Horton, Greg	G	1	Colorado
64	Reynolds, Jack	LB	7	Tennessee
65	Mack, Tom	G	11	Michigan
74	Olsen, Merlin	DT	15	Utah St.
75	Williams, John	T	9	Minnesota
76	Jones, Cody	DT	3	San Jose St.
77	France, Doug	T	2	Ohio State
78	Slater, Jackie	T	R	Jackson St.
79	Fanning, Mike	DT	2	Notre Dame
80	Klein, Bob	TE	8	S. California
81	Jessie, Ron	WR	6	Kansas
83	Nelson, Terry	TE	3	Arkansas AM&N
85	Youngblood, Jack	DE	6	Florida
86	Scales, Dwight	WR	R	Grambling
88	Johns, Freeman	WR	R	S. Methodist
89	Dryer, Fred	DE	8	San Diego St.
90	Brooks, Larry	DT	5	Va. St. Petersburg

Dolphins

No	Name	Pos	Yr	College
1	Yegremian, Garo	K	10	None
10	Strock, Don	QB	3	Virginia Tech
12	Griese, Bob	QB	10	Purdue
15	Morrall, Earl	QB	21	Mich. State
20	Seiple, Larry	P/RB	10	Kentucky
25	Foley, Tim	CB/S	7	Purdue
26	Harris, Duriel	WR/KR	R	New Mexico St.
27	Davis, Gary	RB/KR	R	Cal Poly (SLO)
30	Salter, Bryant	S	6	Pittsburgh
31	Bulaitch, Norm	RB	7	Texas Christian
32	Malone, Benny	RB	3	Arizona St.
33	Winfrey, Stan	RB	2	Arkansas St.
36	Nottingham, Don	RB	6	Kent State
40	Anderson, Dick	SS	8	Colorado
41	White, Jerry	CB	3	Hawaii
44	Hill, Barry	S	2	Iowa State
45	Johnson, Curtis	CB	7	Toledo
49	Babb, Charlie	SS	5	Memphis St.
50	Gordon, Larry	LB	R	Arizona St.
51	Demerry, Mike	LB	3	S. Mississippi
53	Matheson, Bob	LB	10	Duke Univ.
56	Towle, Steve	LB	2	Kansas
60	Reese, Don	DT/DE	3	Jackson St.
62	Langer, Jim	C	7	S. Dakota St.
64	Newman, Ed	G	4	Duke Univ.
66	Little, Larry	G	10	Bethune-Cookman
67	Kuechenberg, Bob	G/T	7	Notre Dame
68	Mitchell, Melvin	G/C	R	Tennessee St.
70	Andrews, John	DE	2	Morgan St.
71	Carlton, Darryl	T	2	Tampa
72	Heinz, Bob	DT	7	Pacific
74	Crowder, Randy	DT	8	Penn St.
75	Fernandez, Manny	DT	9	Utah
78	Droughas, Tom	T	5	Oregon
79	Moore, Wayne	T	7	Lamar Univ.
80	McCreary, Loard	TE	R	Tennessee St.
81	Twilley, Howard	WR	11	Tulsa
82	Owens, Morris	WR	2	Arizona St.
83	Den Herder, Vern	DE	6	Central Iowa
84	Stanfill, Bill	DE	8	Georgia
85	Buonconti, Nick	LB	14	Notre Dame
86	Solomon, Freddie	WR/KR	2	Tampa
87	Tillman, Andre	TE	2	Texas Tech
88	Mandich, Jim	TE	7	Michigan
89	Moore, Nat	WR	3	Florida

Pittsburgh at Minnesota

Monday, October 4 (ABC-TV) 8 p.m. CDT

Steelers

No	Name	Pos	Yr	College
10	Gerela, Roy	K	8	New Mexico St.
12	Bradshaw, Terry	QB	7	Louisiana Tech
15	Kruczek, Mike	QB	R	Boston College
20	Bleier, Rocky	RB	8	Notre Dame
23	Wagner, Mike	S	6	Western Illinois
24	Thomas, J.T.	CB	4	Florida St.
27	Edwards, Glen	S	6	Florida A&M
31	Shell, Donnie	S	3	S. Carolina
32	Harris, Franco	RB	5	Penn State
33	Fuqua, John	RB	8	Morgan St.
34	Russell, Andy	LB	12	Missouri
35	Delaplaine, Jack	RB	R	Salem (W.Va.)
39	Walden, Bobby	P	13	Georgia
43	Lewis, Frank	WR	6	Grambling
45	Allen, Jim	CB	3	UCLA
46	Harrison, Reggie	RB	3	Cincinnati
47	Blount, Mel	CB	7	Southern
50	Clack, Jim	G	6	Wake Forest
51	Toews, Loren	LB	4	California
52	Webster, Mike	C	3	Wisconsin
54	Kellum, Marv	LB	3	Wichita St.
55	Kolb, Jon	OT	8	Oklahoma St.
56	Mansfield, Ray	C	13	Washington
57	Davis, Sam	G	10	Allen
58	Lambert, Jack	LB	3	Kent State
59	Ham, Jack	LB	6	Penn State
63	Holmes, Ernie	DT	5	Texas Southern
64	Furness, Steve	DT	5	Rhode Island
67	Dunr, Gary	DT	R	Miami (Fla.)
68	Greenwood, L.C.	DE	8	Arkansas AM&N
71	Gravelle, Gordon	OT	5	Brigham Young
72	Mullins, Gerry	G	6	USC
74	Pinney, Ray	C/OT	R	Washington
75	Greene, Joe	DT	8	N. Texas State
76	Banaszak, John	DE	2	E. Michigan
78	White, Dwight	DE	6	E. Texas St.
82	Stallworth, John	WR	3	Alabama A&M
83	Bell, Theo	WR	R	Arizona
84	Grossman, Randy	TE	3	Temple
85	Pough, Ernest	WR	R	Texas Southern
87	Brown, Larry	TE	6	Kansas
88	Swann, Lynn	WR	3	USC
89	Cunningham, Bennie	TE	R	Clemson

Vikings

No	Name	Pos	Yr	College
10	Tarkenton, Fran	QB	16	Georgia
12	Clabo, Neil	P	2	Tennessee
14	Cox, Fred	K	14	Pittsburgh
17	Berry, Bob	QB	12	Oregon
19	Lee, Bob	QB	8	Pacific
20	Bryant, Bobby	CB	8	S. Carolina
22	Krause, Paul	S	13	Iowa
23	Wright, Jeff	S	6	Minnesota
25	Allen, Nate	CB	6	Texas Southern
27	Beamon, Autry	S	2	E. Texas St.
28	Rashad, Ahmad	WR	4	Oregon
31	Spencer, Willie	RB	R	No College
33	McClanahan, Brent	RB	4	Arizona St.
35	Muller, Robert	RB	2	Kansas
39	Kellar, Mark	RB	R	N. Illinois
40	Hall, Windlan	S	5	Arizona St.
43	Wright, Nate	CB	8	San Diego St.
44	Foreman, Chuck	RB	4	Miami
50	Siemon, Jeff	LB	5	Stanford
53	Tingelhoff, Mick	C	15	Nebraska
54	McNeill, Fred	LB	3	UCLA
55	Martin, Amos	LB	5	Louisville
56	Anderson, Scott	C	2	Missouri
57	Dumfer, Doug	C	4	Nebraska
58	Hilgenberg, Wally	LB	13	Iowa
59	Blair, Matt	LB	3	Iowa St.
60	Winston, Roy	LB	15	Louisiana St.
61	Hamilton, Wes	G	R	Tulsa
62	White, Ed	G	8	California
68	Goodrum, Charles	T	4	Florida A&M
69	Sutherland, Doug			